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No. 122

## House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. VALADAO).

### DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,  
September 17, 2013.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DAVID G. VALADAO to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2013, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 1 hour and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes each, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m.

### NATIONAL TRUCK DRIVER APPRECIATION WEEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. HOLDING) for 5 minutes.

Mr. HOLDING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of National Truck Driver Appreciation Week.

Professional truck drivers in America deliver goods safely and on time to our hospitals, schools, and local grocers each day and are vital to both our local and our national economy.

Mr. Speaker, last week, I recently sat down with a number of my North Caro-

lina truck drivers and learned that their industry, like so many others in America, is facing a host of new rules and regulations by the Federal Government that is impacting their ability to retain current drivers and hire new ones.

In North Carolina right now, Mr. Speaker, there is a shortage of up to 15,000 truck drivers. These are good-paying jobs that can average a salary of \$50,000 and include benefits. In these difficult economic times, the Federal Government must be promoting policies that encourage companies to go out and hire that additional worker. Trucking is a great example of such an industry.

Mr. Speaker, professional truck drivers have a vested interest in keeping our roads safe not only for their businesses but for everyone else that shares the highway.

Let's commit, Mr. Speaker, to finding sensible solutions that reduce burdensome regulations and keep our roads safe.

### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 3 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. VALADAO) at 2 p.m.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

Lord God of Heaven and Earth, thank You for giving us another day.

As this assembly gathers after a long weekend at home, we note the observance of Constitution Day, when our Nation's founding document was signed at the Constitutional Convention in 1787.

Grant a deepening knowledge of, and appreciation for, our Constitution to all Americans but especially to the Members of the people's House, who have sworn an oath to defend it.

May they have the freedom to realize that their responsibility is to the Nation and its welfare as well as to their own constituents. Give them the wisdom to discern the greater good when those allegiances might seem to conflict.

May all that is done today be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands (Mr. SABLÁN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. SABLÁN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### OBAMACARE MANDATE

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, given President Obama's reflexive opposition to

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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offering all Americans fair treatment under ObamaCare, you'd think the cost of "fairness for all" must be pretty astronomical. Not so.

Extending "fairness for all" by giving American families the same break from ObamaCare that businesses are getting will save taxpayers and cut the Federal deficit.

The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office found that delaying ObamaCare's weighty individual mandate tax on the American people would reduce Federal deficits by roughly \$36 billion over the 2014-2018 period.

Fairness makes sense. It's not just good policy; it's good for taxpayers and for the economy. No wonder Republicans and Democrats joined together this summer to stop the individual mandate just like President Obama decided to stop his Big Business employer mandate.

We encourage President Obama to rethink his insistence on the individual mandate and to support "fairness for all."

#### CONGRATULATING THE CNMI PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM ON ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY

(Mr. SABLAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, public education in the Northern Mariana Islands was transformed 25 years ago by the Education Act of 1988, creating an autonomous public school system outside of the executive branch of government, overseen by an elected board of education.

This decision coincided with a period of political maturation, economic expansion, and population growth on the islands; and the intervening years have proven its value. PSS students are excelling, winning national awards for their acting talent, debate skills, spelling abilities, and science acuity.

This year alone, the Marianas High School Aeronautical Dolphins won the national Real World Design Challenge and \$50,000 scholarships for each team member. Three students were awarded Gates Millennium scholarships. It is the third year in a row students from our small community have won. Last summer, Saipan Southern High School's Manta Ray Band performed at the Olympics and brought home a silver medal from the London Celebration Music Festival.

These achievements were made possible through the extraordinary and cumulative support of the leaders, teachers, and staff of the public school system.

Please join me in saluting PSS for 25 years of service to our youth.

#### THE DELICATE BALANCE OF POWERS

(Mr. BURGESS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, today is the 226th anniversary of the signing of one of the most important documents in world history.

A lot of us talk about the Constitution, and talk about it often; but sometimes we forget the ground-breaking influence of that document and the fact that that very document was written by the States to create the Federal Government and not the other way around.

It has provided the basis for our representative Republic; it has provided the foundation for our government; and it has had a lasting influence across the world. In various corners of the globe, our Constitution has served as a model for other countries as they strove to build their governments and to make liberty and freedom for their citizens one of their first priorities.

Today's anniversary marks the spot where history diverged from the history of colonial rule and forged a path based on the rule of law and the rights of individuals. I hope that everyone takes a moment to reflect on the enormous insights of our Founders in creating this document.

#### A FISCAL CUL-DE-SAC

(Mr. BLUMENAUER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the recognition of the signing of our Constitution, which has been described as a document created by geniuses for a government that could be run by idiots. It looks pretty idiotic around here today to have been driven into a fiscal cul-de-sac, risking a government shutdown or default on the national debt. We can help the Republicans out of the cul-de-sac they've driven into.

First, just allow the House to vote on a continuing resolution. Second, if you want to cut the budget, bring your House budget bills to the floor. You pulled them back, and you wouldn't even allow a vote on them. Third, if your own budget is too onerous that your own Members don't want to vote on it, allow a conference committee to be formed with the Senate and create a budget that's more realistic. But one thing should be off limits—wrecking the global economy by defaulting on the national debt, which is money we've borrowed for money that has already been spent.

Every small business, church, union, rotary club, contractor, home builder, and bank should tell the Republicans: don't play games with the national debt.

#### A NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

(Mr. FLEMING asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FLEMING. Mr. Speaker, this past Saturday marked the first annual National Day of Remembrance, a day to solemnly mark the sorrowful loss of life caused by abortion.

Last spring, the murder conviction of abortionist Kermit Gosnell forced our Nation to take a long, hard look into the brutal realities of abortion and the unborn lives that are killed by abortion every day. With Gosnell behind us, it may be tempting for some to look away again and ignore the truth: abortion is the taking of a human life.

I want to acknowledge and thank the pro-life groups and leaders who began the National Day of Remembrance.

It is a double tragedy when an unborn child is killed in abortion, and research has shown us the complications and emotional scars that can linger with the child's mother, compounding that tragedy. That's why we grieve and long for an end to abortion, and it's why pro-lifers must continue to make every effort to educate people about abortion.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 4 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 9 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1600

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BENTIVOLIO) at 4 p.m.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Sherman Williams, one of his secretaries.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

#### KEEP THE PROMISE ACT OF 2013

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1410) to prohibit gaming activities on certain Indian lands in Arizona until the expiration of certain gaming compacts.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1410

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the “Keep the Promise Act of 2013”.

**SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

The Congress finds as follows:

(1) In 2002, the voters in the State of Arizona approved Proposition 202, the Indian Gaming Preservation and Self-Reliance Act.

(2) To obtain the support of Arizona voters to approve Proposition 202, the Indian tribes within Arizona agreed to limit the number of casinos within the State and in particular within the Phoenix metropolitan area.

(3) This Act preserves the agreement made between the tribes and the Arizona voters until the expiration of the gaming compacts authorized by Proposition 202.

**SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

For the purposes of this Act—

(1) the terms “Indian tribe”, “class II gaming”, and “class III gaming” have the meanings given those terms in section 4 of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2703); and

(2) the term “Phoenix metropolitan area” means land within Maricopa County and Pinal County, Arizona, that is north of latitude 33 degrees, 5 minutes, 13 seconds north, east of longitude 113 degrees, 20 minutes, 0 seconds west, and west of longitude 110 degrees, 50 minutes, 45 seconds west, using the NED 1983 State Plane Arizona FOPS 0202 coordinate system.

**SEC. 4. GAMING CLARIFICATION.**

(a) **PROHIBITION.**—Class II gaming and class III gaming are prohibited on land within the Phoenix metropolitan area acquired by the Secretary of the Interior in trust for the benefit of an Indian tribe after April 9, 2013.

(b) **EXPIRATION.**—The prohibition in subsection (a) shall expire on January 1, 2027.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

**GENERAL LEAVE**

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 1410, the Keep the Promise Act, introduced by a bipartisan group of Members from the Arizona delegation, would preserve Arizona’s voter-approved gaming compact by prohibiting any Indian casino on land acquired in trust after April 9, 2013, in the Phoenix metropolitan area. This prohibition would expire on January 1, 2027, when the current gaming compact negotiated with the Arizona Governor expires.

This bill helps to resolve public promises that were supposedly made in good faith to the voters of Arizona. In 2002, the voters supported the passage of Proposition 202, which limited the number of tribally owned casinos in the State, and it granted tribes exclusive rights to operate casinos in Ari-

zona. During the Proposition 202 campaign, a public promise was made by a coalition of 17 Arizona tribes, including the Tohono O’odham Nation, to limit casino gaming in the Phoenix metropolitan area. Unfortunately, it appears that a tribe is on the verge of breaking that commitment, and more than a majority of the tribes in the State are upset.

The immediate effect of the bill is to block the Tohono O’odham Nation from opening an off-reservation casino in the Phoenix area. This is a modified version of a bill passed by an overwhelming majority of the House last year.

As mentioned earlier, the bill has bipartisan support, including a majority of the House delegation, the Governor of Arizona, and six of the tribes that took part in the Proposition 202 agreement: the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, the Gila River Indian Community, the Hualapai Tribe, the Pueblo Zuni, the Cocopah Indian Tribe, and the Fort McDowell Yavapai Tribe.

It is important to point out that it is not just Arizona tribes that support this bill. I have met tribes from other States, and they are very concerned about what is happening in Arizona. They believe that if our legislation is not signed into law, a dangerous precedent could be set, leading to the expansion of off-reservation casinos in Arizona and other States. They want to see Congress protect State gaming compacts.

For me, today’s deliberations are not about stopping one casino or gaming as a whole. I support gaming. The Keep the Promise Act is about protecting the integrity of my State’s gaming compact, the future of gaming in Arizona, and, ultimately, the future of Indian gaming in this country.

I urge adoption of the measure and reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

We’re back again. This is the second time with a different piece of legislation. And, quite honestly, H.R. 1410 is nothing more than special interest legislation designed to protect the Phoenix market from a few wealthy tribal gaming enterprises.

The legislation not only upsets settled law, but potentially subjects the United States to new liabilities for breach of trust, breach of contract, and taking claims valued in the hundreds of millions of dollars, but it also creates a dangerous precedent for hundreds of tribal-State compacts and land and water rights settlements that are found nationwide.

Let’s talk about those promises. The Gila Bend Act, approved and enacted by this Congress 25 years ago, entitled the Tohono O’odham Nation to acquire nonreservation land anywhere within three Arizona counties in order to replace original reservation land rendered economically useless by the Painted Rock Dam, the San Lucy Dis-

trict in particular, which that community was totally destroyed.

The settlement specifically promised that the nation could acquire new replacement land that could be used by the nation for economic development and as a “Federal reservation for all purposes.”

H.R. 1410 would impose additional restrictions beyond those agreed upon by the United States and the Tohono O’odham Nation 25 years ago, breaking the solemn promise made between two sovereign nations. This would mark the first and only time in the modern era in which the United States unilaterally reneges on a tribal land and water rights settlement.

Last time around, the special interests behind this legislation tried to amend the actual settlement language from 1986. They soon discovered that that would open up a Pandora’s box, potentially rendering more than a century’s worth of binding, legal agreements with Native American tribes and nations moot.

This time, they thought they would be clever and instead attack the actual State compact, but this legislation sets equally dangerous precedent. In the 2003 compact, the State explicitly agreed that the nation could conduct gaming on any of the nation’s lands that meet the requirements of IGRA. Proposition 202, the voter-sanctioned State law which gave the Governor the authority to enter into the very tribal gaming compact now in force, includes the exact same language allowing the Tohono O’odham Nation to conduct gaming on lands that meet the requirements of IGRA.

H.R. 1410 breaks this contractual promise that Arizona made to the Tohono O’odham Nation. It would also be the first and only time that the United States unilaterally inserts new terms into a tribal-State gaming compact. Let me restate that. With H.R. 1410, the Federal Government will be stepping in and unilaterally altering a voter-approved, legislature-approved, tribal-approved, and Governor-approved binding tribal-State compact.

How’s that for a dangerous precedent? This legislation would put all tribal gaming compacts at risk of collateral attack by Members of Congress.

Now the special interests are bringing H.R. 1410 up this time because they have lost yet another court case. Since its predecessor, H.R. 2938, was introduced in 2011, almost every argument to justify H.R. 2938 and now H.R. 1410 has been rejected by Federal courts in multiple cases. In fact, there have been 11 administrative and judicial decisions rejecting justifications for this legislation. The latest came on June 25, 2013, when the Federal district court ruled the Arizona tribal-State gaming compact was fully integrated and contained no prohibition of new gaming in Phoenix, and this foreclosed any alleged promises not to game. The court dismissed all remaining claims brought by plaintiffs.

Aside from making good on what the Federal Government promised the Tohono O'odham Nation, this is also about jobs, jobs that this project would create, 9,000 of them, and \$300 million in annual economic impacts that are critical to the economic well-being of the west valley of Phoenix and the State of Arizona. This is why many of the surrounding cities and hundreds of business leaders and trade organizations are supportive of the project.

The city of Glendale, where the casino would be located and which was initially party to the lawsuits, is now actively working with the nation to move forward on the project. They see the economic benefits it will bring. In fact, they are asking Congress not to pass this legislation as it will only undermine their ongoing talks.

Congress needs to stop trying to interfere in this issue in order to pick winners and losers. This bill is just a waste of time and energy that this Congress should be spending on many more pressing issues that face this Nation.

It should be noted that the administration has twice testified against this bill in both versions, which regardless of what happens today in the House, it will not become law.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Arizona, Mr. TRENT FRANKS, the author of this bill.

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. I thank the gentleman.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a lot of the Members here of the House of Representatives, I want to thank Peggy Sampson for her tremendous work to help us all. This is her birthday, Mr. Speaker, and we wish her a happy birthday. We hope she has 100 more and that at least 90 of them are spent helping us here in this House to do a better job. We appreciate her very much.

Mr. Speaker, let me also thank Chairman HASTINGS and leadership for bringing this bill to the floor today, as well as the bipartisan group of cosponsors for their support. I certainly want to thank all of the Members of the Arizona delegation that are in support of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1410, the Keep the Promise Act, seeks to prevent Las Vegas-style gaming in the Phoenix metropolitan area until the gaming compact that both the tribes agreed to and the Arizona voters approved expires in 2027.

One Tucson-area tribe is trying to build a major casino on lands that were purchased in the Phoenix metropolitan area at the very same time they were in negotiations with other tribes in the State to craft this gaming compact. These actions are contrary to the public commitments that this particular tribe made between 2000 and 2002 to the 16 other Indian tribes in Arizona, the State itself, and the voters of the State of Arizona; and they publicly supported the passage of Proposition 202, a State

referendum to limit casino gambling in the Phoenix metropolitan area. Mr. Speaker, the bipartisan cosponsors of H.R. 1410 are simply trying to keep all the parties to their publicly stated commitment to the people of Arizona not to engage in gaming in the Phoenix metropolitan area.

Mr. Speaker, during the subcommittee hearing on this bill, witnesses made clear that there is a problem and a serious threat to the negotiated gaming structure in Arizona if this tribe is able to break its promise and develop a Las Vegas-style casino in the Phoenix metropolitan area.

□ 1615

H.R. 1410 prevents an onerous precedent that could lead to an out-of-control expansion of off-reservation casinos as well as dangerous changes to the complexion of tribal gaming in other States across America.

Mr. Speaker, tribes across this Nation, including many of the other Arizona tribes that played an integral role in the 2002 gaming compact, strongly support this legislation due to the impact this situation could have on tribal gaming enterprises nationally. The bill is also supported by the State of Arizona, the city of Glendale, the city of Litchfield Park, the city of Scottsdale, the city of Tempe, the town of Gilbert, and the editorial board of *The Arizona Republic*, which is the largest newspaper in the State.

Additionally, Mr. Speaker, even if the casino weren't in violation of Federal law or contrary to the voter-approved gaming compact, claims that the operation would create jobs and benefit the economy of the surrounding area are woefully misinformed at best and shamefully dishonest at worst.

Tellingly, multiple organizations, including the city of Glendale, asked that the tribe release the data and methodology supporting their economic study, which was conducted roughly 4 years ago, and to this day the tribe continues to steadfastly refuse. In other words, the tribe released a batch of numbers extolling the supposed amazing economic benefits of this new casino and then refused to tell anybody how they came about finding and coming up with those numbers.

Mr. Speaker, this bill does not impact any tribe's ability to have lands taken into trust, nor does it impact any water or land claims. Consistent with the intent of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act and Proposition 202, this bill merely restricts the ability of tribes to game on the very lands on which they agreed they would not game.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask that my colleagues join me and the Members of Arizona's delegation in supporting this bill.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. GRIJALVA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GRIJALVA. Let me enter into the RECORD three letters. One is from Councilwoman Norma Alvarez from the city of Glendale. Let me quote from it:

As a member of the Glendale City Council, I urge you to oppose H.R. 1410, the so-called Keep the Promise Act. This bill is aimed at halting the Tohono O'odham Nation's resort and casino project in the West Valley in order to preserve the market share of two wealthy tribes on the other side of the valley. In serving these narrow interests, H.R. 1410 will also be harmful to my constituents, who want the thousands of jobs that the West Valley Resort and Casino will create.

I am part of a majority of the Glendale City Council that supports beginning discussions with the Tohono O'odham Nation to find ways to work together. These talks are long overdue and they need an opportunity to succeed.

From Councilman Samuel Chavira from Glendale, let me quote from him:

As a local elected official, I believe that this legislation is not only detrimental to my community, but is an affront to the notion of fairness in attempting to overturn a land settlement resolved by Congress three decades ago brought by parties who have repeatedly failed to sustain their position in court. My constituents want this project to go forward, the sooner the better. Please join me in opposing H.R. 1410.

From Ian Hugh, councilman, city of Glendale:

There is now a consensus of the Glendale City Council that favors pursuing discussion with the Tohono O'odham Nation about its project, which represents our first opportunity in years to work together constructively. Passing H.R. 1410 at this moment would undercut the very local communities it is supposed to protect.

I ask you to please oppose this bill and oppose any effort to move forward on H.R. 1410 until after the discussions between the city and the tribe have run their course.

I also have one additional communication to enter. It is from Glendale Grassroots Tea Party Activists, and let me quote from their communications to Congress:

I feel confident that I speak for the majority of those involved with the grassroots Tea Party in Glendale as well as other Tea Party organizations in the West Valley that we all can be in agreement that to continue on this insane spending, egotistical stubbornness, and refusal to sit down in a professional-like manner and talk regarding this issue will eventually be the death trap financially of this city and the State, and hurt many innocent families in keeping good-paying permanent jobs out of their reach.

I am sending each of you a copy of this letter as well as posting it on Facebook Web pages of many of the legislative districts, Tea Party organizations, Republicans coalitions, and various other organizations, to ensure a peaceful resolution.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

SEPTEMBER 13, 2013.

Hon. TRENT FRANKS,

*U.S. House of Representatives, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC.*

As a member of the Glendale City Council, I urge you to oppose H.R. 1410, the so-called Keep the Promise Act of 2013. This bill is aimed at halting the Tohono O'odham Nation's resort and casino project in the West Valley in order to preserve the market share of two wealthy tribes on the other side of the valley. In serving these narrow interests,

AUGUST 12, 2013.

H.R. 1410 will also be harmful to my constituents, who want the thousands of jobs that the West Valley Resort and Casino will create.

I am a native and lifelong resident of Glendale and have supported the West Valley Resort project since I was elected to the Glendale City Council in 2010. I have watched as the opposition's misinformation about the Nation's project, all of which has been totally discredited point by point. I have also seen the enduring support for the project among my own constituents and voters across the West Valley, where public support remains overwhelming.

I have met with the leaders of the Nation and they are honorable people. The Nation has been a strong community partner in Glendale and the West Valley, supporting our schools, our community events, and our local nonprofits. Even before a single brick has been laid, they have already established themselves as good neighbors.

I am part of a majority of the Glendale City Council that supports beginning discussions with the Tohono O'odham Nation to find ways to work together. These talks are long overdue and they need an opportunity to proceed.

WRITTEN TESTIMONY OF THE HONORABLE SAMUEL U. CHAVIRA, CITY OF GLENDALE, ARIZONA YUCCA DISTRICT COUNCILMAN

Chairman Young, Ranking Member Hanabusa, and distinguished members of the Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs, my name is Samuel (Sam) Chavira and I am respectfully submitting these comments opposing H.R. 1410.

I am submitting these comments on my own behalf although I would have strongly preferred to share them with you in person but apparently the Subcommittee did not want to hear from the many in our local community who are opposed to H.R. 1410. Allowing the minority local opposition to appear while denying the majority local supporters the same opportunity is an abuse of discretion and protocol to which I strongly object.

I am among three members of the Glendale City Council who support this project, two of whom were elected to the Glendale City Council in November of 2012 to a four-year term. The West Valley Resort and casino project was a cornerstone of my campaign as I defeated a four-term incumbent who opposed the resort and casino. I spoke to literally thousands of constituents over several months and nine out of every ten people I talked with joined me in support of the project because of the jobs and economic impact that it will provide to Glendale. So today I am submitting this written testimony in opposition to H.R. 1410 on behalf of my constituents in the Yucca District which borders the Tohono O'odham Nation's West Valley Resort and casino property. Not only is this legislation detrimental to our local community, but is even worse than Representative Franks' previous proposal, which I also opposed. Under this version, we would be left with the Nation's land in reservation status but without the ability to develop the land to its highest and best use.

For those of you who are not familiar with the West Valley, it is a reference to the communities west of the City of Phoenix. The City of Glendale is the largest community in the West Valley, with a population of more than 230,000. My district is home to approximately 40,000 Glendale residents and is fortunate to have community assets like Luke Air Force Base, Jobing.com Arena, University of Phoenix Stadium, the Glendale Municipal Airport and Camelback Ranch Spring Training facility. While on the campaign trail, I was pleased to learn so much about

my district and the needs of my constituents. The issue that my constituents were particularly eager to discuss was the Tohono O'odham Nation's West Valley Resort and casino. The overwhelming majority of the residents I spoke to favor the proposed project, and were quick to share with me the many benefits associated with the project's construction and development.

As the Yucca district is the only Glendale City Council district adjacent to the Nation's land, I wanted to share my perspective with you. The City of Glendale's financial situation is precarious, and I strongly believe that a project of this magnitude will significantly contribute to the City's economic stability and ultimate recovery. The Nation seeks no subsidies and has committed to pay their fair share for infrastructure and services, and the employment their project will generate will bring thousands of quality jobs to the region that my constituents want and need.

As a local elected official, I believe that this legislation is not only detrimental to my community, but is an affront to the notion of fairness in attempting to overturn a land settlement resolved by Congress three decades ago brought by parties who have repeatedly failed to sustain their position in court. My constituents want this project to go forward, the sooner the better. Please join me in opposing H.R. 1410.

SEPTEMBER 13, 2013.

Hon. TRENT FRANKS,

*U.S. House of Representatives, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC.*

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE FRANKS, I am writing to ask you to oppose H.R. 1410, a bill aimed at halting the Tohono O'odham Nation's proposed West Valley Resort and Casino.

I speak from the perspective of a lifetime Glendale resident; business owner for 35 years, former City Councilmember from 1986-1991; 8-year former Board Member and Past President of the Glendale Union High School District; and current Glendale City Councilmember.

Glendale is faced with a unique opportunity for a major economic development project in the West Valley Resort and Casino. I have met with the leaders of the Tohono O'odham Nation and have studied the impacts of their project. It would be the largest construction project in the region and would create thousands of permanent jobs, as well as hundreds of millions of dollars in economic impacts.

It just does not make any sense for Congress to intervene to stop this project, especially with H.R. 1410. This legislation unilaterally amends the Nation's settlement with the federal government to draw an arbitrary line across the state in a fashion that does more to protect the market share of special interests than serve any public good.

It's also a terrible deal for Glendale because H.R. 1410 would still leave us with the Nation's land in reservation status, while preventing the property from being put to its highest and best use.

There is not a consensus of the Glendale City Council that favors pursuing discussion with the Tohono O'odham Nation about its project, which represents our first opportunity in years to work together constructively. Passing H.R. 1410 at this moment would undercut the very same local communities it is supposed to protect.

I ask you to please oppose this bill and oppose any effort to move forward on H.R. 1410 until after the discussion between the City and the tribe have run their course.

Sincerely,

IAN HUGH,  
*Councilmember.*

Mayor JERRY WEIERS,  
Councilman IAN HUGHES,  
Councilwoman NORMA ALVAREZ,  
Councilman SAM CHAVIRA,  
Councilman MANNY MARTINEZ,  
Councilwoman YVONNE KNAACK,  
Councilman GARY SHERWOOD,  
Attorney General TOM HORNE,

TO THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF GLENDALE, ALL MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL AND THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR THE STATE OF ARIZONA.

I am speaking as an individual concerned citizen of the City of Glendale with regards to the excess spending in lawsuits for the past 4+ years against the Tohono O'odham Nation in their pursuit of creating a Free Enterprise project that entails the creation of upwards of 3500-4000 permanent much needed jobs for the people in Glendale and surrounding West Valley communities.

Free Enterprise is one of our greatest US Constitutional rights. To continue to deny this venture that will help families keep their homes, put food on their tables, clothing on their children, and pursue the American Dream is a travesty. Taking away good hard earned money in the form of taxes to continue to pay lawyers who knowingly continue this mockery of so called justice to suit only a small special interest group in their quest of having a monopoly on a specific enterprise is outrageous.

This is purely all about keeping all the profits to one-two specific tribal groups who do not want any competition as I've been personally told by both Senator MCCAIN and Congressman FRANKS. To use the words spoken specifically to me by Senator MCCAIN—It's All About The Money. Truer words were never spoken.

The Tohono O'odham Nation have won all lawsuits costing both the State of Arizona and City of Glendale millions of dollars in taxpayer money to fight frivolous lawsuits—State of Arizona to the tune of \$4.4 million and the City of Glendale \$5-6 million. How much longer can the State and the City continue this insanity before either one or both go bankrupt and for what. Ego?

Mayor Weiers, you campaigned on the promise that if the TO Nation won their suit that was pending last October/November 2012, you would go with whatever the courts decided. The courts, Again, decided in favor of the TO Nation and once more after that. So that's 2 more Wins for TO Nation. Isn't it about time you kept your promise to the citizens of the City of Glendale.

I understand that thousands of letters are pouring into Councilmembers hands as well as to the Mayor all in favor of stopping the insane spending to continue fighting a fight that is a Gila River Indian Community Fight to keep all the money that they feel is 'their' money from profits from their Casinos. This is not about the Casino any longer. It is about taxpayers money, lost jobs, and lost revenue to the City of Glendale as well as hurting Westgate businesses and other surrounding businesses.

Surely all of you Councilmembers, the Mayor and Attorney General Tom Horne recognize the wall you are up against and realize to maintain your integrity you must see, recognize and adhere to the will of the people in the City of Glendale, Phoenix, Surprise, Sun City, Peoria, Tolleson, Buckeye, and other surrounding cities who want the Spending to STOP!

Please be adults and good, principled business people. Be willing to accept the Olive Branch that has been provided to you all to sit down at the table to talk and pursue negotiations of what will be feasible, productive both financially and opportunistically to all parties including We The People who voted you all into office. We The People,

with our tax dollars, pay all of your salaries. It is in all of your best interests to listen to the majority who are asking that you STOP the wasteful spending in lawsuits and become more productive in pursuing an amicable solution by coming together with the TO Nation in sit down in talks with the sole intent of coming to a resolution that provides for everyone.

I have spoken to many people in the Grassroots Tea Party Activists in Glendale who are definitely in favor of stopping the wasteful spending of taxpayer money on these frivolous lawsuits against the TO Nation especially when it is costing people their livelihood, and chance of better jobs, or just at having permanent jobs. We have a few who are not in favor of Casinos, any casinos, on moral principles. Vast majority though will concede the common sense thing to do right now after the TO Nation has already won approximately 12 lawsuits, leaving the State of Arizona & the City of Glendale in debt to the TO Nation combined total at around \$10 million plus.

I feel confident that I speak for the majority of those involved in the GRTP in Glendale as well as other Tea Party Organizations in the West Valley that we all can be in agreement that to continue on in this insane spending, egotistical stubbornness, and refusal to sit down in a professional like manner and talk regarding this issue will eventually be the death trap financially of this City and the State and hurt many innocent families in keeping good paying permanent jobs out of their reach.

I am sending each of you a copy of this letter as well as posting it on Facebook webpages of many of the Legislative Districts, Tea Party organizations, Republican Coalitions and various other organizations, to ensure that a peaceful resolution be brought to the table and No More Lawsuits. Thank you.

In Liberty,

FRANCINE ROMESBURG,  
*Grassroots Tea Party Activists—Glendale  
Facilitator.*

H.R. 1410 prevents an onerous precedent that could lead to an out of control expansion of off-reservation casinos as well as dangerous changes to the complexion of tribal gaming in other states across America. of off-reservation casinos o the complexion of tribal America.

Mr. Speaker, tribes across this nation, including many of the other Arizona tribes that played an integral role in the 2002 gaming compact, strongly support this legislation due to the impact this situation could have on tribal gaming enterprises nationally. This bill is also supported by the State of Arizona, the City of Glendale, the City of Litchfield Park, the City of Scottsdale, the City of Tempe, the Town of Gilbert, and the Editorial Board of the Arizona Republic, which is the largest newspaper in the State.

Additionally, Mr. Speaker, even if the casino weren't in violation of federal law or contrary to the voter approved gaming compact, claims that the operation would create jobs and benefit the economy of the surrounding area are woefully misinformed, at best, and shamefully dishonest, at worst.

Tellingly, multiple organizations, including the City of Glendale, asked that the tribe release the data and methodology supporting their economic study (which was conducted roughly four years ago) and, to this day, the tribe continues to steadfastly refuse.

In other words, the tribe released a batch of numbers extolling the supposed amazing economic benefits of this new casino, then refuses to tell anybody how they came up with the numbers.

Mr. Speaker, this bill does not impact any tribe's ability to have lands taken into trust,

nor does it impact any water or land claims. Consistent with the intent of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act and Proposition 202, this bill merely restricts the ability of tribes to game on the very lands on which they agreed they would not game.

I respectfully ask that my colleagues join me and members of Arizona's delegation in supporting this bill. With that, Mr. Speaker, I yield back.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire regarding the amount of time remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Arizona has 13 minutes remaining.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT).

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman GOSAR, and from all of us, I see Peggy has slipped off the floor, but happy birthday.

Mr. Speaker, I actually come here before the body with somewhat of a unique perspective on what's going on here. And I hate to admit that I'm getting this old, but in 1993, I was the majority whip in the Arizona State house. I was the one who was assigned to work as a negotiator on the original IGRA compacts between the State of Arizona—the legislature had to put its text together—and the tribal communities, our 21 land-holding tribes within the State of Arizona. So I spent a year of my life with lawyers and tribal members and their lawyers and members of the legislature and members of the Governor's office going over this over and over.

And the concern that constantly came up was, if we make this deal as IGRA, that had passed a few years earlier and was sponsored by one of our U.S. Senators, are we confident that this very situation that's happening right now would not happen.

Look, I know many of the players have changed in those 20 years, but this is what we talked about. And now I need to take you to the next reason: Why is this so dangerous to our State?

Arizona does something, and I don't know if it's unique to our State, but there's the ability for my poor rural tribal communities to transfer their machines to urban communities. I believe if this casino goes into my metropolitan area, my State, within a couple years, becomes a full-scale gaming State because the horse track and the others are already lining up, gearing up, I believe, to do the initiative, saying, hey, we all thought we had this deal. Look what's happening. They're coming into your neighborhood. Let's just put it on the ballot and let everyone participate in full-scale gaming. And the moment that happens, the value of the machine transfer for these poor rural tribes that are just now starting to build that consistent cash flow will go away.

This is much more than just dealing with the Tohono O'odham and where their aboriginal lands are and this acquisition of lands that are 100 miles beyond. This is an issue of: Are you about

to allow something to happen that will change the very nature of my State?

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

It has been impossible to correct the misrepresentations, and to put that mildly, the constant and sophisticated disinformation lobbying campaign has persisted without regard to facts or reality. There has been some constant points that were made—that H.R. 1410 is about stopping reservation shopping and off-reservation gaming, akin to the situation that's going on in Michigan. It is totally different. It is unrelated, and the decree by Congress in law, upheld by State and Federal law, points to the fact that that is not real, and it is totally different.

The 202 initiative that the public voted on and passed, that that somehow is in jeopardy. The last court hearing reaffirmed that that was not the case.

And that it is a precedent for all State compacts to be opened up. Each State compact is unique, different, with its own checks and balances, and Arizona is no different.

This is a violation of the State gaming compact, and that there was a gentleman's agreement. Again, the courts pointed out that that was not in fact part of the record or part of the decision, and that court decisions, very interesting, court decisions, Interior Department findings, are of no matter:

In 2009, April 30, the Department of Interior ruled in favor of Tohono O'odham Nation.

In 2009, June, ruled in favor of the Tohono O'odham Nation.

In 2010, July 23, Echohawk Trust decision letter, in favor of the Tohono O'odham Nation.

The Gila River v. U.S., 2011, March, court summary judgment in favor of the Tohono O'odham Nation.

May 20, 2013, Ninth Circuit Court decision in favor of the Tohono O'odham Nation.

The Tohono O'odham Nation v. Glendale on an annexation issue 2011, May, Court of Appeals decision, Tohono O'odham Nation.

2011, October, Supreme Court denial of petition for review, Tohono O'odham Nation prevails.

2011, December, Supreme Court fee award, Tohono O'odham Nation prevails.

2012, January, Superior Court judgment, Tohono O'odham Nation prevails.

Tohono O'odham Nation v. Arizona, 2011, June, district court summary judgment, Tohono O'odham Nation prevails.

2011, June, again district court judgment, Tohono O'odham Nation.

Arizona v. Tohono O'odham Nation, district court order on a motion to dismiss claims 5 and 6; claims 1, 2, 3, and 7 in part, Tohono O'odham Nation wins.

2013, May, district court summary judgment order, all remaining claims except breach of contract under re-statement, Tohono O'odham Nation wins.



2013, June, district court summary judgment order, all remaining claims, including breach of contract, Tohono O'odham Nation prevails.

Again, June, 2013, district court judgment, Tohono O'odham Nation prevails.

Eleven in total administrative and judicial decisions—but let's not let facts and judicial precedent and the fact that the Tohono O'odham Nation has prevailed consistently against the State, against the city of Glendale, against competing tribes over and over again and has had the Interior Department, which, as I stated earlier, has testified twice against the previous legislation and against this legislation.

I want to quote from The Glendale Star from their editorial of August 1:

Is it any wonder so many people distrust government—at any level? When there are so many questions about the motives of the plaintiffs that are suing the Tohono O'odham Nation, one begins to ask about the greed factor.

Does anyone believe the future of Indian gaming in Arizona is at risk if the Tohono O'odham Nation eventually wins this long, drawn-out battle in the courts? Who is willing to bet on the future of Indian gaming in our State?

If the congressman who is sponsoring this legislation is so set against gambling, he should be trying to get rid of all the casinos in the State. He should be out stumping for the end of gaming altogether.

Instead, he is working on the side of the two major gaming operations in the valley, both in the East Valley, by the way, and not the West Valley.

This congressman needs to start looking in his own backyard and trying to come up with solutions to unemployment, help for small business owners, transportation gridlock, and more than blocking what could be a big step toward economic stability, i.e., jobs. At least, the nation's resort-casino would provide construction jobs for many out-of-work carpenters and masonry workers for a year or two. Those jobs are needed now.

□ 1630

I mention all this because, as I said earlier, it's been difficult to try to counter the allegations and the misrepresentation and the disinformation that have been leveled against the Tohono O'odham Nation's efforts to establish a casino under a congressional decision and law that afforded them, to make them whole because of the land they lost because of the dam, and we're still back here on this particular piece of legislation.

So court decisions, administrative decisions matter not. Precedent matters not. The opening of Pandora's box, in terms of water claims and other settlements with Indian country, matters not.

What matters is to protect some very important gaming interests and special interests for two gaming entities that have had the luxury for the last 5, 6, 7, 8, 10 years.

Tohono O'odham Nation has prevailed in court. The issue of a backroom deal that wasn't kept has been ruled moot by the court. The issue that this is somehow reservation shopping

and offsite gaming has been ruled moot by the court.

And then you have the Glendale City Council, a principal plaintiff in this, now retreating and, rather, working with the Tohono O'odham Nation to work out some agreements, as opposed to continuing the litigation.

The courts have ruled \$4.5 million is owed to the tribe in legal costs by both the State and the affected gaming industry, also from Glendale; and I think it's time, as this legislation goes forward, that people ask a very fundamental question about this legislation: Is it intended to preserve a gaming compact? Which, I believe, and the court has ruled, no.

Or is it intending to preserve a market share for two gaming entities that have enjoyed that market share by themselves?

The free market requires competition. The free market requires opportunity. And all that is happening in this legislation is to try to constrict the ability of people in this free market of ours to compete, to create jobs, and to create opportunities.

Mr. Speaker, with that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to acknowledge that out of our committee this bill was reported 35-1 in favor of this bill, so a heavily bipartisan bill reported to the House.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

There's no question that the prevailing point of view—and I talked about the disinformation—will prevail here today. I have no question about that.

The fact that we are going against judicial decisions, undoing a law that was passed by this Congress to make whole a tribe that lost their land 25 years ago, and interjecting ourselves, for the first time in the history of this Nation into a State and Native American gaming compact, that doesn't negate that.

So, you know, my opposition, whether it's in the distinct minority or not, is based on what I believe is reality and fact. And if this debate were about reality and fact, and not about supposition, disinformation, or misinformation, the debate would be in a whole different tone.

This is about economic development for the State. This is about Congress making true on a decision they made 25 years ago, and this is about Congress not short-cutting judicial decisions that have been made over the course of the last 5 years, in which the Tohono O'odham Nation has prevailed in every one of them.

So, given all that, bipartisanship, I love it, but being correct and holding true to a decision that this Congress made 25 years ago, I think, is consistent with the work of this House and consistent with preserving gaming compacts in States and, more importantly, making whole a tribe that lost

valuable resources to the Federal Government in the past.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KILDEE).

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Chairman, thank you for yielding some time to me.

I rise in support today of H.R. 1410. The Saginaw Chippewa Tribe in Michigan, whom I have the privilege of representing here, and for reasons that I concur with, have asked that I support this legislation, along with several other Michigan tribes that are opposed to off-reservation gaming. And so I ask my colleagues to join me in support of this legislation and in opposition to off-reservation gaming.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

In closing, let me say that the situation in Michigan, as I mentioned, is unrelated to this. There is no legal precedent, and there is no congressional action to guide the decisions of courts, which has been the case with the Tohono O'odham decision and with the casino in the West Valley.

Let me just say, this is about fairness. This is about Congress upholding its word.

This is not about reservation shopping. It's not about offsite gaming. It is not about a gentlemen's agreement.

And it is totally and entirely about an act that was taken 25 years ago, upholding that act, making a tribe whole, and not opening up a Pandora's box in which litigation will continue to proceed once this legislation goes forward.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Trust is a series of promises kept. That's the basis of all government functions. And that is the same thing that is required of the Tohono O'odham. When they entered into the agreement in 2002, they publicly supported the compact which limited the amount of casinos in the Phoenix-Greater Phoenix area.

Yes, it is true there are other precedents behind it, but contractual law always follows and subjugates itself when you look at this.

The speaker from Arizona spoke about the dialogue with the courts. The courts had to rule because the Tohono O'odham hid behind sovereignty in which the tapes and discussion in which they were truly negating or negotiating behind closed doors in dire dissent against this compact would not be disclosed. So the court only had one way to look.

Congress has the ability to rectify this answer, and that's why we are here today. This is good legislation. It doesn't prohibit any of the jurisdictions over that, except just complying with the compact to the end of the compact, 2027. Once upon that time, then they can renegotiate, and everybody is fairly into the game.

This is about trust, but it is trust from the Tohono O'odham to the Federal Government, to the taxpayers of Arizona, to the Governor, and to the other tribes of Arizona.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1410.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### AUTHORITY TO EXTEND THE UNITED STATES-REPUBLIC OF KOREA NUCLEAR COOPERATION AGREEMENT

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2449) to authorize the President to extend the term of the Agreement for Cooperation between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Korea Concerning Civil Uses of Nuclear Energy for a period not to exceed March 19, 2016.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2449

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. AUTHORITY TO EXTEND THE UNITED STATES-REPUBLIC OF KOREA NUCLEAR COOPERATION AGREEMENT.

The President is authorized to extend the term of the Agreement for Cooperation between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Korea Concerning Civil Uses of Nuclear Energy for a period not to exceed March 19, 2016, notwithstanding any other provision of law.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. MEEKS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include any extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, over the past six decades, the United States and South Korea have built a strong and enduring alliance, which is the cornerstone of peace, the cornerstone of security in the Asia-Pacific region.

Ever since the dark days of the Korean war, our two nations have stood

side by side to meet some of today's most pressing challenges. The alliance between our two countries is a model for global partnership in every field, whether it's in the economic field or political or concerning security.

And earlier this year, my good friend, the ranking member, and I led a bipartisan delegation to South Korea to reaffirm our Nation's steadfast commitment to the good people of South Korea. It was during this visit that we witnessed the tremendous sacrifice that South Koreans made in order to live in freedom.

The ranking member and I stood by the wreckage of the naval ship Cheonan, paying our respects to the 46 South Korean sailors who perished as a result of the unprovoked North Korean attack, a poignant reminder of the constant threat that our two nations face.

When Madame Park Geun-hye, the first woman to be elected President of South Korea, addressed a joint session of Congress, she honored the deep sacrifice that Americans have made in protecting her beloved nation. I was pleased to serve on the host committee when she visited the Congress.

Madam Park and her delegation were warmly received when in southern California as part of her official visit to the United States.

Today, South Korea is at the forefront of global innovation, with the world's 13th largest economy; and as a result of the landmark U.S.-South Korea trade agreement, South Korea is our seventh largest trading partner.

One of the most important areas of our close economic cooperation is commerce and, particularly, commerce in nuclear energy. And that is why, Mr. Speaker, it is so important that the Congress approve this piece of legislation before us today.

South Korea's nuclear energy sector is extensive. It's critically important to its economy. Its 23 operating reactors produce one-third of the nation's electricity. In an effort to secure greater energy independence, the government plans to double this figure over the next two decades, with 11 more power plants to be completed.

Much of South Korea's nuclear infrastructure is of American origin, and U.S. businesses provide millions of dollars' worth of spare parts and services every year to that nation. That is one of the reasons expansion of this vital sector will be good for the U.S. economy as well.

South Korea also plans to become a major nuclear exporter in the international market. Given the truly global nature of this industry, American suppliers stand to make considerable gains as well.

For example, in 2009, a consortium of Korean companies was selected to build four nuclear power reactors in the United Arab Emirates, a deal worth \$20 billion. Of this total, American companies will earn up to \$2 billion for this project alone through sales of equipment and of services. It is estimated

that this one project will support 5,000 jobs in 17 States.

□ 1645

The ability of American companies to export to South Korea's nuclear power sector rests upon our two countries' 40-year-old nuclear cooperation agreement, which expires on March 19, 2014. The U.S. and South Korean negotiators are currently negotiating a long-term extension of this agreement.

But to prevent an unnecessary interruption that would have a major negative impact on our alliance with South Korea and on U.S. exporters alike, Ranking Member ENGEL and I introduced this bipartisan legislation to extend the existing agreement for 2 years, to March 19, 2016. The State Department is in support of this legislation.

Testifying earlier this year on behalf of an extension, a top State Department official told the House Foreign Affairs Committee:

An extension would also ensure there is no lapse in our ongoing civil nuclear cooperation, preserving stability and predictability in our joint commercial activities.

This bill is a simple extension of the existing agreement—with no modifications or changes—that will allow negotiators time to focus on substance instead of the clock.

The Foreign Affairs Committee voted unanimously in favor of the bill, which now has a total of 41 cosponsors from both sides of the aisle.

I urge my colleagues to vote for this legislation so that it can be sent to the Senate and then on to the President for his signature and thereby ensure that the cooperation between our two countries in this vital area can continue without interruption.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2449, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I'd like to begin by thanking my good friend, the chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, ED ROYCE, and the ranking member, ELIOT ENGEL, for their work on this bipartisan legislation.

The current U.S.-South Korea civil nuclear cooperation agreement, also known as a "123 agreement," allows the U.S. and South Korea to work together on peaceful uses of nuclear energy. That agreement is set to expire next year. Because our two countries have not yet completed negotiations for a new agreement, H.R. 2449 allows a 2-year extension of the existing agreement to provide more time for the two sides to come to an agreement.

An extension would help ensure that there's no lapse in our ongoing civil nuclear cooperation, preserving stability and predictability in our joint commercial activities. South Korea is a vital economic and security partner of the United States, and passing this bill would help ensure that we maintain the strongest possible relationship with our trusted ally.



Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2449 enjoys wide bipartisan support. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlelady from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN), chairman emerita of the Foreign Affairs Committee, who currently chairs the Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I thank our gracious chairman for the time.

I rise in full support of H.R. 2449, an important bipartisan bill that will extend the U.S.-South Korea civilian nuclear energy agreement for another 2 years.

South Korea is indeed an important ally of the United States, and our bilateral relationship is a cornerstone of America's national security interests in Asia. By passing this stopgap measure, Mr. Speaker, we will avoid the expiration of the original 40-year agreement and allow the United States and South Korea to continue to negotiate on a renewed agreement in good faith.

If we do not pass this bill, the current agreement will expire early next year. This would not only cause damage to the U.S.-South Korea relationship, but it will also harm the United States manufacturers who provide parts and services to South Korea's energy industry and will negatively impact the technological, safety, and nonproliferation efforts of both of our countries in the civilian nuclear energy sector.

Mr. Speaker, South Korea has become a major user of domestic nuclear power, with the partnership of American technology. Nuclear power provides about one-third of all of South Korea's electricity, and South Korea is looking to even further expand that percentage. They are looking to the United States and American businesses to help them achieve their goals.

South Korea's partnership with America for civilian nuclear projects already has resulted in billions of dollars for our economy and has created thousands of jobs. Continued cooperation with South Korea would bring more revenue to America and create much-needed jobs for Americans. But this can only happen, Mr. Speaker, if our two countries can negotiate a long-term agreement.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. ROYCE. I yield the gentlewoman an additional 30 seconds.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. I thank the chairman.

They cannot negotiate this when they're constantly watching the clock, which I should have done as well. Passing this bill will give them the much-needed time to focus on the negotiations and finally come to a mutually beneficial agreement.

So I urge my colleagues to support this strong bipartisan and much-needed bill that will help the U.S. economy,

U.S. jobs, and strengthen the alliance between the United States and our key trading partner in South Korea.

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT), chairman of the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I rise today as a strong supporter and cosponsor of H.R. 2449, legislation to extend for 2 additional years the existing U.S.-South Korea civilian nuclear energy agreement.

As chairman of the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, it's my strong belief that passage of this legislation is in the national interest of the United States and also in the vital interest of the U.S.-South Korea alliance.

Earlier this year, we held a hearing in our subcommittee to examine the facts behind the current nuclear energy agreement with South Korea and why it needs to be extended. Simply put, the agreement with South Korea strengthens America's nonproliferation priorities, it helps to create American jobs in the energy sector, and it's an important symbol of our long friendship with South Korea.

I want to commend my colleague from California (Mr. ROYCE), the chairman of the full committee, and also the ranking member of the committee from New York, ELIOT ENGEL, for introducing this bipartisan legislation.

America's friendship with South Korea is stronger today than probably at any other moment in our history. Forged on the cold, dark battlefields of the Korean war, this year's 60th anniversary of the U.S.-South Korea alliance marks a significant milestone in our ever-growing relationship. There is no doubt it has indeed become the cornerstone of peace and security in East Asia. In fact, it is the enduring, relevant, and forward-looking qualities of our alliance that makes today's consideration of this bill, H.R. 2449, so important.

Today in South Korea, a once war-torn nation has become a world-class economy and leader in high-tech innovation. Its commitment to democracy, human rights, and the rule of law in a region where these ideals are often-times hard to come by is a testament to the trust we have in our ally and friend, South Korea.

I once again thank Chairman ROYCE and Ranking Member ENGEL for putting this particular legislation together. I would like to join them in urging my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. MEEKS. I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I think we have one final Member who wishes to speak on this. I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS), a member of the Foreign Affairs, Judiciary, and the Oversight Committees.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I appreciate you yielding the time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2449, I think the merits of which you have spoken of. I also want to rise and discuss the relationship with the Republic of Korea.

Since the 1950s, the Republic of Korea has been a strong ally of the United States and an economic leader in the Pacific region. South Korea is an example of how the free market brings about an increased quality of life.

The Republic of Korea is Asia's fourth largest economy and the world's 12th largest economy. In the 1960s, South Korea was on par with levels of poverty seen in Africa. Fast forward to 2004, when South Korea joined the trillion-dollar club of world economies—in stark contrast to its neighbor to the north. North Korea is one of the most oppressive regimes in the world.

The U.S.-South Korea alliance is one that shows the world the promise of democracy and free enterprise. Today, we recognize just one partnership between our nations—the civilian nuclear energy program. This agreement maintains a safe, secure nuclear program in a very turbulent international environment.

I'm grateful to be an original cosponsor of this legislation. Congress needs to continue to show how much it values our Nation's relationship with South Korea, and a positive vote on this agreement will be a strong step in that regard.

When you look at the area, you see the strong light of freedom in South Korea tarnished only by the darkness of the tyranny in North Korea. That's why we stand with South Korea. That's why this agreement is important.

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

In closing, let me again thank the chair and the ranking member for their hard work. I listened to the chair talk about his trip and what he and the ranking member observed, as well as the information they brought back to the subcommittee and the committee. It is so tremendously important. It highlights the importance of our great ally, South Korea.

We recently passed a trade agreement with South Korea because we worked together and were able to create jobs through that trade agreement, not only in South Korea, but here in America. This is an example of what can be accomplished when you work together and try to make sure there's no lapse in our ongoing civil nuclear cooperation. It shows that we can work collectively to make sure individuals use nuclear forces for the good of mankind and make sure that there is power in their communities.

I'm delighted today to join in a strong bipartisan manner to support H.R. 2449. I ask all of my colleagues to vote in support of H.R. 2449, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I just want to stand in solidarity with the remarks of Mr. MEEKS of New York. We're both in complete agreement here, as we've discussed in the past, about how vital this relationship is with South Korea. It is one that, for decades, we've stood side-by-side as South Korea and the United States have tried to promote policies in that region in defense of freedom, to support democracy, to support human rights, and, at the same time, to support economic growth. I think it is just as important that we stand together to extend the U.S.-South Korea civilian nuclear energy agreement.

So I would urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan legislation. I think it is critical not only to our friend and ally, but I would say, without this bill, tens of thousands of American workers would be at a grave disadvantage. This bill extends, without modification, the existing agreement between the U.S. and South Korea for 2 additional years so that the current negotiations can continue uninterrupted.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2449, thereby building upon the already strong relationship between the United States and South Korea by extending the current U.S.-Korea Civil Nuclear Agreement for another two years.

Mr. Speaker, Korea and the United States have a long and storied alliance stretching back sixty years, with many shared political and cultural values. Our current nuclear agreement is set to expire in 2014. Extending it is a mutually beneficial proposition, as past nuclear agreements with Korea have demonstrated. South Korea is one of the largest consumers of nuclear energy in the world, and U.S. companies export billions of dollars worth of equipment to Korea each year, while Korea uses nuclear power to increase its own energy independence. H.R. 2449 represents a new chapter in energy partnership between the U.S. and Korea and I look forward to its passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2449.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

□ 1700

#### PROVIDING FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF SPECIAL ENVOY

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 301) to provide for the establishment of the Special Envoy to Promote

Religious Freedom of Religious Minorities in the Near East and South Central Asia, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 301

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) More than 500 Baha'is in Iran have been arbitrarily arrested since 2005. Roughly 100 Baha'is are presently imprisoned because of their religious beliefs.

(2) In May 2010, suspected terrorists attacked two mosques in Pakistan belonging to the Ahmaddiya minority Muslim sect, killing at least 80 people. Ahmadis consider themselves Muslim, but Pakistani law does not recognize them as such.

(3) Said Musa, an Afghan Christian convert, was arrested in May 2010 on charges of apostasy, a crime which can carry the death sentence, and was released in February 2011 only after sustained international pressure.

(4) On October 31, 2010, gunmen laid siege on Our Lady of Salvation Church in Baghdad, Iraq, killing at least 52 police and worshippers, including two priests, making it the worst massacre of Iraqi Christians since 2003.

(5) Iraq's ancient and once vibrant Christian population that numbered an estimated 1,500,000 out of a total population in Iraq of 30,000,000 in 2003 has been reduced by at least one half, due in significant part to Christians fleeing the violence.

(6) In November 2010, a Pakistani court sentenced Asia Bibi, a Christian mother of five, to death under the country's blasphemy law for insulting the Prophet Muhammad.

(7) Since early 2011, violent sectarian attacks targeting Coptic Orthodox Christians and their property increased significantly, resulting in nearly 100 deaths, mostly Coptic Christians, surpassing the death toll of the 10 previous years combined.

(8) In Egypt, with the ascent of the Muslim Brotherhood, Coptic Christians, numbering 8 to 10 million, have been under increased threat and many are reported to have fled the country during former President Mohamed Morsi's rule.

(9) On March 2, 2011, Pakistani Federal Minorities Minister Shahbaz Bhatti, the only Christian member of the Cabinet, who was outspoken in his opposition to Pakistan's blasphemy laws was assassinated by extremists.

(10) The former Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism, Hannah Rosenthal, has noted that Holocaust glorification "is especially virulent in Middle Eastern media, some of which is state-owned and operated, which calls for a new Holocaust to finish the job".

(11) In the midst of a devastating civil war, Syrian Christians and other religious minorities, which comprise roughly 10 percent of the population, are particularly vulnerable lacking their own militias and regional protectors.

(12) Many of these ancient faith communities are being forced to flee the lands which they have inhabited for centuries.

(13) The United States Commission on International Religious Freedom has recommended that Egypt, Tajikistan, Iran, Iraq, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan be designated by the Department of State as Countries of Particular Concern in accordance with the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998.

(14) The situation on the ground in the region continues to develop rapidly and the United States Government needs an indi-

vidual who can respond in kind and focus on the critical situation of religious minorities in these countries.

(15) There are historical precedents, including the Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism, the Special Envoy for North Korea Human Rights Issues, and the South Sudan and Sudan Special Envoy, for the Department of State, either as a result of legislative mandate or initiative of the Secretary of State, to create positions with a targeted focus on an area or issue of recognized import.

#### SEC. 2. SPECIAL ENVOY TO PROMOTE RELIGIOUS FREEDOM OF RELIGIOUS MINORITIES IN THE NEAR EAST AND SOUTH CENTRAL ASIA.

(a) APPOINTMENT.—The President shall appoint a Special Envoy to Promote Religious Freedom of Religious Minorities in the Near East and South Central Asia (in this Act referred to as the "Special Envoy") within the Department of State.

(b) QUALIFICATIONS.—The Special Envoy should be a person of recognized distinction in the field of human rights and religious freedom and with expertise in the Near East and South Central Asia regions. The Special Envoy shall have the rank of ambassador and shall hold the office at the pleasure of the President.

(c) PROHIBITION.—The person appointed as Special Envoy may not hold any other position of Federal employment for the period of time during which the person holds the position of Special Envoy.

#### SEC. 3. DUTIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Special Envoy shall carry out the following duties:

(1) Promote the right of religious freedom of religious minorities in the countries of the Near East and the countries of South Central Asia, denounce the violation of such right, and recommend appropriate responses by the United States Government when such right is violated.

(2) Monitor and combat acts of religious intolerance and incitement targeted against religious minorities in the countries of the Near East and the countries of South Central Asia.

(3) Work to ensure that the unique needs of religious minority communities in the countries of the Near East and the countries of South Central Asia are addressed, including the economic and security needs of such communities to the extent that such needs are directly tied to religious-based discrimination and persecution.

(4) Work with foreign governments of the countries of the Near East and the countries of South Central Asia to address laws that are inherently discriminatory toward religious minority communities in such countries.

(5) Coordinate and assist in the preparation of that portion of the report required by sections 116(d) and 502B(b) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151n(d) and 2304(b)) relating to the nature and extent of religious freedom of religious minorities in the countries of the Near East and the countries of South Central Asia.

(6) Coordinate and assist in the preparation of that portion of the report required by section 102(b) of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6412(b)) relating to the nature and extent of religious freedom of religious minorities in the countries of the Near East and the countries of South Central Asia.

(b) COORDINATION.—In carrying out the duties under subsection (a), the Special Envoy shall, to the maximum extent practicable, coordinate with the Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration of the Department of State, the Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom, the United

States Commission on International Religious Freedom, and other relevant Federal agencies and officials.

#### SEC. 4. DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION.

Subject to the direction of the President and the Secretary of State, the Special Envoy is authorized to represent the United States in matters and cases relevant to religious freedom in the countries of the Near East and the countries of South Central Asia in—

(1) contacts with foreign governments, intergovernmental organizations, and specialized agencies of the United Nations, the Organization of Security and Cooperation in Europe, and other international organizations of which the United States is a member; and

(2) multilateral conferences and meetings relevant to religious freedom in the countries of the Near East and the countries of South Central Asia.

#### SEC. 5. PRIORITY COUNTRIES AND CONSULTATION.

(a) **PRIORITY COUNTRIES.**—In carrying out this Act, the Special Envoy shall give priority to programs, projects, and activities for Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan, and Pakistan.

(b) **CONSULTATION.**—The Special Envoy shall consult with domestic and international nongovernmental organizations and multilateral organizations and institutions, as the Special Envoy considers appropriate to fulfill the purposes of this Act.

#### SEC. 6. FUNDING.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Of the amounts made available for “Diplomatic and Consular Programs” for fiscal years 2014 through 2018, \$1,000,000 is authorized to be appropriated for each such fiscal year to carry out the provisions of this Act.

(b) **FUNDING OFFSET.**—To offset the costs to be incurred by the Department of State to carry out the provisions of this Act for fiscal years 2014 through 2018, the Secretary of State shall eliminate such positions within the Department of State, unless otherwise authorized or required by law, as the Secretary determines to be necessary to fully offset such costs.

(c) **LIMITATION.**—No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated for “Diplomatic and Consular Programs” to carry out the provisions of this Act.

#### SEC. 7. SUNSET.

This Act shall cease to be effective beginning on October 1, 2018.

The **SPEAKER** pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. MEEKS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and that they also might have the ability to include extraneous material on this resolution in the RECORD.

The **SPEAKER** pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of this legislation because this legislation provides for a very needed Special Envoy to Promote Religious Freedom of Religious Minorities

in the Near East and in South Central Asia.

This bill, introduced by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WOLF), is substantially identical to one which we brought up last year and tried to get out of both bodies; it was H.R. 440. This body passed that legislation by more than 400 votes.

Sadly, in the 2 years that have elapsed since then, the dangers motivating this bill have only grown more acute. In many areas of the Middle East, the first freedom, as we called it, the freedom of religious liberty, is disregarded.

Minority communities are not merely under threat; those communities are now under attack. From Afghanistan, to Iran, to Syria, to Egypt and elsewhere in these regions, religious minorities have been increasingly subjected to unconscionable—often violent—persecution. These alarming trends are occurring in the midst of growing regional instability as brutal regimes and terrorists and insurgents seek to assert control over populations and seek to enforce their ideologies by use of fear, by use of brute force.

As the bloody civil war rages in Syria, ancient Christian communities are being forced to flee the lands they have inhabited for centuries in the midst of this bloody civil conflict.

In Egypt, Coptic Christians have experienced unspeakable abuses at the hands of radical Muslim groups and have been fleeing their country in droves to escape further violence. I have met with many from the vibrant Coptic Christian community in southern California.

In Iran, more than 500 Baha'is have been arbitrarily arrested since 2005 by the Iranian Government. In Pakistan, 80 members of the Muslim Ahmadiyya sect were killed by terrorists in their places of worship in 2010, in addition to consistent incidents of violence and even judicial persecution of Christians there. Many of us are aware of the violations of the rights and the deaths of the Shi'a minority there as well.

For all of these alarming reasons, this legislation is at least as timely as it was 2 years ago. I commend our colleague, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WOLF), for bringing it to our attention.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill and yield myself such time as I may consume.

This bipartisan legislation creates a Special Envoy to Promote Religious Freedom of Religious Minorities in the Near East and South Central Asia. Housed at the State Department, the Special Envoy would be responsible for monitoring and combating acts of religious intolerance, engaging with foreign governments to address laws that discriminate against religious minorities, and working to ensure that the unique needs of religious minority communities are being addressed.

This bill is important because religious minority communities all around

the world—particularly in the Near East and South Central Asia—are facing increased attacks and persecution. For example, Egypt's recent governments have failed to prevent, investigate, or prosecute crimes against members of religious minority groups, especially Coptic Christians. Churches have been burned to the ground and numerous Christians murdered.

Iraq used to have a significant number of religious minorities. These groups have been subject to escalating violence, persecution, and discrimination for their religious beliefs, and today they comprise only about 3 percent of Iraq's population. By some estimates, half of Iraq's Christian population has fled since 2003.

In Iran, the arrest and harassment of members of religious minorities, including Sunni Muslims and Christians, continues to rise. In one notable case last year, an Iranian-American Christian pastor was imprisoned for threatening Iranian national security. And what was his crime? Helping to set up small churches in people's homes. Iran's minority Baha'i community is particularly harassed, punished, imprisoned, and even killed simply because of their religion.

This past August, a Baha'i community leader in Bandar Abbas, Iran—Mr. Ataollah Rezvani—was found murdered in his car on the outskirts of the city, shot in the back of the head. He had been the subject of threats and pressure from agents of the Ministry of Intelligence, and until shortly before his death he had been receiving menacing phone calls from unidentified persons. There is little doubt that his murder was religiously motivated. Until now, the Iranian Government has not begun a formal investigation into his murder or the murder of many other Baha'is that have been killed in recent years. It is past time for the Iranian Government to move immediately to seek justice for the cruel deaths of its Baha'i citizens. I wish these were isolated cases, but countless other examples exist, from Afghanistan to India to Saudi Arabia.

We indeed are fortunate to live in a country that was founded by religious refugees on principles of tolerance. But it is important that we do everything we can to ensure that religious minorities elsewhere in the world enjoy the freedoms and protections they deserve—the freedoms and protections enjoyed by all Americans. Appointing this Special Envoy would be an important step in that direction, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WOLF), chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, and Science, cochairman of the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission, author of this bill, and long a spokesman for religious freedom for those of all creeds.

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I want to begin by thanking Chairman ROYCE for

swiftly moving the bill and for his comments today. I also thank the Republican leadership for recognizing that this simple but critical legislation is worthy of making it a priority by this Congress, even as there are other issues that face us at this time.

In January 2011, following a spate of attacks against Christians in Iraq and ongoing persecution in Egypt, I convened a Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission hearing focusing on the plight of religious minorities in Egypt and Iraq. Among the witnesses was Representative ANNA ESHOO, who ultimately became the lead Democrat on this bill for two consecutive Congresses.

During the hearing we heard sobering testimony about the challenges facing these communities. A resounding theme emerged: Chaldo-Assyrian Christians and Coptic Christians were being marginalized and targeted for violence. These realities were all the more troubling given the historic roots of the faith communities in these two countries—amazingly, many Iraqi Christians today still speak Aramaic, the language of Jesus.

Not only were these communities being threatened in the lands they had inhabited for centuries, their plight was largely unknown and seemingly unimportant within the broader foreign policy apparatus. Notably, at the time of the hearing, the post of the U.S. Ambassador for International Religious Freedom had been vacant for 2 years.

While the hearing predated the so-called “Arab Spring,” without question the dramatic changes in the region have only further jeopardized these communities. I was convinced then and remain convinced today that religious minorities in the Middle East and in key countries in South Central Asia, such as Pakistan—as the chairman mentioned—and Afghanistan need someone who can be their voice both within the halls of Foggy Bottom and abroad with foreign governments.

Last Congress, this legislation overwhelmingly passed the House only to stall in the Senate in the face of opposition by the State Department—the same State Department which to date has failed to designate any Countries of Particular Concern for egregious religious freedom violations since August of 2011.

The administration’s opposition is shortsighted and, frankly, indefensible. As we debate this legislation, Coptic Christians are leaving Egypt in droves. As we debate this legislation, several Baha’i leaders languish unjustly in an Iranian prison, as does American citizen Saeed Abedini.

As we debate this legislation, Ahmadi Muslims, as the chairman said, in Pakistan are prohibited from voting and their graves are desecrated. As we debate this legislation, Syrian Christians fear they too will be caught in a crossfire like Iraqi Christians, or worse yet, like the Iraqi Jewish community. I

am told only a single Jewish person remains in the country today where once a vibrant Jewish community flourished.

This legislation is supported by such diverse groups as faith-based organizations, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, United Methodist Church, The Ahmadi Muslim community, Southern Baptist Convention, and Christians United for Israel, among others, as well as a multitude of diaspora organizations which are directly linked with the very people the Special Envoy would serve.

Will a Special Envoy guarantee these communities’ survival—and even flourishing? I do not know. But I am certain that to do nothing is not an option—lest on this administration’s and this Congress’ watch we witness a Middle East emptied of ancient faith communities, foremost among them the “Sunday People.”

German Lutheran Pastor Dietrich Bonhoeffer, faced with the tyranny of and horror of Nazism, famously said: “Silence in the face of evil is itself evil. Not to speak is to speak. Not to act is to act.”

I want to thank the chairman again, Mr. ROYCE, and urge my colleagues to join me in sending an undeniable message to persecuted people of faith the world over—and just as importantly to the forces that oppress them—that America, this shining city on the hill as envisioned by our Founders, will not be silent in the face of evil.

Please vote “yes” on H.R. 301.

Mr. MEEK. Mr. Speaker, at this time I am happy to yield 3 minutes to the coauthor of this bill, the gentlelady from California (Ms. ESHOO).

Ms. ESHOO. I want to begin by thanking the ranking member. I also want to thank the chairman of the committee, and most especially my colleague and friend, Congressman WOLF.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 301, a bill that will create a Special Envoy to Promote Religious Freedom of Religious Minorities in the Near East and South Central Asia.

This legislation responds, as has been said so eloquently by those that spoke before me, to the urgent needs of Christians and other religious minorities who are really under siege in the Middle East precisely because they are Christians and because they are minorities.

In light of the ongoing events in Syria, this legislation could not be more timely. I commend Representative FRANK WOLF, whom I have worked closely with as cochair of the Religious Minorities Caucus, for his partnership in this effort. Most importantly, I thank him for his conscience.

We first introduced this legislation in 2011 after Congressman WOLF chaired a hearing to review the violence and the hardship faced by Middle Eastern religious minorities. I testified that day about the plight of who I am descended

from, the Assyrians—the world’s oldest Christians who have fled and continue to flee Iraq.

We agreed to press forward with this legislation to create a Special Envoy at the State Department, the ambassador level, to elevate this issue for the attention that it deserves. The United States of America needs a high-level official dedicated to religious freedom in the region and committed to addressing the concerns of minority communities.

Appropriately, H.R. 301 has attracted solid bipartisan support, with 68 cosponsors calling for the State Department to elevate religious freedom in the Middle East as a diplomatic priority of our country.

□ 1715

Just as Senator John Danforth served our Nation as Special Envoy to Sudan and Senator George Mitchell Special Envoy to Northern Ireland, religious minorities in the Middle East require and deserve a high-level authoritative voice to address their situation.

The history of violence against Christians in the Middle East must not be allowed to repeat itself, and it is. Notably, Syria’s ancient Christian population, which makes up 10 percent of the country, has been forced to flee their ancestral homeland, as noted in today’s New York Times in a lengthy article.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I yield the gentlelady an additional 2 minutes.

Ms. ESHOO. Churches have been, and continue to be, attacked and sacred objects ransacked, and the very lives of those that stand against this are being threatened.

The Christians of Syria, as well as Iraq, Iran, Israel, and Egypt, are the oldest in the world. Christianity was from the beginning a Middle Eastern religion. The Assyrian Christians, the Chaldeans, actually celebrate mass in Aramaic, which is the language Jesus spoke. For more than 2,000 years, Christians have been a key part of the Middle Eastern community.

From the founding of our Nation, religious freedom has been a pillar of our democracy, and it remains one of the great hallmarks of our country.

I urge all my colleagues to join me in supporting this critical legislation to create a Special Envoy focused on the freedom and survival of these ancient faith communities, and I thank Representative WOLF most especially for his tireless advocacy.

I also thank the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops for supporting this legislation and for writing to every Member of the House urging their full support, as well as the honor roll of faith-based organizations who support the legislation.

Let us go forward and send a very clear message, not only to the other legislative body, but also to people

around the world, that we remain the beacon of hope and light and that we uphold this pillar of religious freedom, not only in our own Nation but in countries around the world where people of faith are under siege.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

In closing, let me thank the authors of this bill, Mr. WOLF and Ms. ESHOO, for your dedication, your focus, and your hard work.

It would seem that in the year of our Lord 2013 we would learn religious tolerance by now all over the world, we would have learned that it is the right thing to do to be patient with individuals who might believe different than we do, to allow them their way of life so that they can prosper and grow and pray in their own beliefs. Unfortunately, that's not true. For all of us, we should be concerned wherever religious tolerance is not adhered to.

I recall the words—and why it concerns us—Dr. King said once that “injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.” If we allow minorities who believe differently than we do anywhere to think that it is okay, and we are not going to use whatever diplomatic or other forms of relationships that we have to try to have religious freedoms, they're mistaken. We must not allow our voices to be silent, we must speak aloud in clear language, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, in the spirit that Mr. MEEKS articulated there, we Americans who cherish religious liberty and all people of goodwill who value the rights of conscience cannot remain silent in the face of this rising regional intolerance. I think, as he put it, and as Mr. WOLF and Ms. ANNA ESHOO put so eloquently, I think it is time to bring about this Special Envoy to deploy in the Middle East. I thank Mr. WOLF for his leadership and certainly urge passage of H.R. 301.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 301, legislation to provide for the establishment of the Special Envoy to Promote Religious Freedom of Religious Minorities in the Near East and South Central Asia. I want to thank my colleagues Congressman WOLF and Congresswoman ESHOO for introducing this important legislation, which I am proud to cosponsor.

Ethno-religious minorities face serious threats in many countries in the Middle East, and it is critical that U.S. policy is sensitive to the needs and concerns of those endangered communities. Years of warfare, as well as specific persecution and targeting minority groups, has taken a serious toll on once-vibrant communities. While there were once over 1.5 million Christians in Iraq, today there are less than 400,000.

In October 2010, an attack on the Our Lady of Salvation Assyrian Catholic Church in Baghdad left more than 50 clergy, worshipers and police dead. This brutal massacre, just

one of many in recent years, drew international outrage and condemnation. We need a clear strategy for the protection of targeted minority communities.

My district in the Chicagoland area has a large and vibrant Assyrian population. In recent years, they have been extremely active in calling for greater attention to the ongoing persecution and targeting of their brothers and sisters in the Middle East, including a large march in Chicago in the wake of the 2010 Baghdad massacre. I am proud to work with them on this issue and to push to see H.R. 301 enacted into law.

Today's legislation will ensure that this serious issue is given the high-level attention it deserves within the State Department. A Special Envoy to Promote Religious Freedom of Religious Minorities in the Near East and South Central Asia will be a voice for persecuted communities, ensuring that U.S. policy is responsive to their needs. It is a critical step toward protecting these ancient and vibrant communities, and toward ensuring a peaceful and secure future for all residents of the region.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important bill.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise as a cosponsor of H.R. 301, a bill to establish a Special Envoy to promote religious freedom for minorities in the Near East and South Central Asia and to applaud Representative FRANK WOLF for his leadership on this timely and important issue.

No one should be made to feel that the practice of their religion is a crime or a source of shame. When people are persecuted in the name of one religion against another, such persecution violates their inalienable right to worship as they choose and promotes political instability. Around the world, many conflicts are rooted in sectarian differences and rivalries. Today in Syria, Christians and other religious minorities are in direct peril and are the target of abuse and persecution as a result of the civil war. On April 22, 2013, Greek Orthodox Archbishop of Aleppo Boulose Yazigi and the Syriac Archbishop of Aleppo, Yohanna Ibrahim were kidnapped by a faction of rebel extremists while carrying out humanitarian work in the area around the city. To this day they remain missing.

To the extent the United States can promote religious tolerance, we advance the cause of human rights, justice and peace around the globe. This bill creates a special envoy in order to monitor and combat acts of religious intolerance and incitement targeted against religious minorities and to work with foreign governments to address laws that are inherently discriminatory toward religious minority communities.

I encourage my colleagues to support of H.R. 301. By helping protect minorities in the Near East and South Central Asia, we contribute to the safety of minorities all over the world who live in fear for their lives merely because they practice a different religion than those around them.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 301, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

## ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES REVITALIZATION AND REFORM ACT OF 2013

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 793) to support revitalization and reform of the Organization of American States, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 793

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Organization of American States Revitalization and Reform Act of 2013”.

### SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The Charter of the Organization of American States recognizes that—

(A) representative democracy is indispensable for the stability, peace, and development of the Western Hemisphere; and

(B) a purpose of the Organization of American States is to promote and consolidate representative democracy, with due respect for the principle of nonintervention.

(2) The United States supports the purposes and principles enshrined in—

(A) the Charter of the Organization of American States;

(B) the Inter-American Democratic Charter; and

(C) the American Declaration on the Rights and Duties of Man.

(3) The United States supports the Organization of American States in its efforts with all member states to meet our commitments under the instruments set forth in paragraph (2).

(4) Congress supports the Organization of American States as it operates in a manner consistent with the Inter-American Democratic Charter.

### SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It is the policy of the United States—

(1) to promote democracy and the rule of law throughout the Western Hemisphere;

(2) to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms in the Western Hemisphere; and

(3) to support the practices, purposes, and principles expressed in the Charter of the Organization of American States, the American Declaration on the Rights and Duties of Man, the Inter-American Democratic Charter, and other fundamental instruments of democracy.

### SEC. 4. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the Organization of American States (OAS) should be the primary multi-lateral diplomatic entity for regional dispute resolution and promotion of democratic governance and institutions;

(2) the OAS is a valuable platform from which to launch initiatives aimed to benefit the countries of the Western Hemisphere;

(3) the Summit of the Americas institution and process embodies a valuable complement to regional dialogue and cooperation;

(4) the Summit of the Americas process should be formally and more effectively integrated into the work of the OAS, the Inter-American Development Bank, and other Members of the Joint Summit Working Group, and the OAS should play a central role in overseeing and managing the Summit process;

(5) the OAS General Assembly and the Summit of the Americas events should be combined geographically and chronologically in the years in which they coincide;

(6) the OAS has historically accepted too many mandates from its member states, resulting in both lack of clarity on priorities and loss of institutional focus, which in turn has reduced the effectiveness of the organization;

(7) to ensure an appropriate balance of priorities, the OAS should review its core functions no less than annually and seek opportunities to reduce the number of mandates not directly related to its core functions;

(8) key OAS strengths lie in strengthening peace and security, promoting and consolidating representative democracy, regional dispute resolution, election assistance and monitoring, fostering economic growth and development cooperation, facilitating trade, combating illicit drug trafficking and transnational crime, and support for the Inter-American Human Rights System;

(9) the core competencies referred to in paragraph (8) should remain central to the strategic planning process of the OAS and the consideration of future mandates;

(10) any new OAS mandates should be accepted by the member states only after an analysis is conducted and formally presented consisting of a calculation of the financial costs associated with the mandate, an assessment of the comparative advantage of the OAS in the implementation of the mandate, and a description of the ways in which the mandate advances the organization's core mission;

(11) any new mandates should include, in addition to the analysis described in paragraph (10), an identification of the source of funding to be used to implement the mandate;

(12) the OAS would benefit from enhanced coordination between the OAS and the Inter-American Development Bank on issues that relate to economic development;

(13) the OAS would benefit from standard reporting requirements for each project and grant agreement;

(14) the OAS would benefit from effective implementation of—

(A) transparent and merit-based human resource standards and processes; and

(B) transparent hiring, firing, and promotion standards and processes, including with respect to factors such as gender and national origin; and

(15) it is in the interest of the United States, OAS member states, and a modernized OAS to move toward an assessed fee structure that assures the financial sustainability of the organization and establishes, not later than five years after the date of the enactment of this Act, that no member state pays more than 50 percent of the organization's assessed fees.

#### SEC. 5. ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES REVITALIZATION AND REFORM STRATEGY.

(a) STRATEGY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of

the House of Representatives a multiyear strategy that—

(A) identifies a path toward the adoption of necessary reforms that prioritize and reinforce the OAS's core competencies described in section 4(8);

(B) outlines an approach to secure from the OAS effective adoption of—

(i) a results-based budgeting process in order to strategically prioritize, and where appropriate, reduce current and future mandates; and

(ii) transparent hiring, firing, and promotion practices;

(C) reflects the inputs and coordination from other Executive Branch agencies, as appropriate; and

(D) identifies a path toward the adoption of necessary reforms that would—

(i) lead to an assessed fee structure in which no member state would pay more than 50 percent of the OAS's assessed yearly fees; and

(ii) seek to minimize the negative financial impact on the OAS and its operations.

(2) POLICY PRIORITIES AND COORDINATION.—The Secretary of State shall—

(A) carry out diplomatic engagement to build support for reforms and budgetary burden sharing among OAS member states and observers; and

(B) promote donor coordination among OAS member states.

(b) BRIEFINGS.—The Secretary of State shall offer to the committees referred to in subsection (a)(1) a quarterly briefing that—

(1) reviews assessed and voluntary contributions;

(2) analyzes the progress made by the OAS to adopt and effectively implement a results-based budgeting process in order to strategically prioritize, and where appropriate, reduce current and future mandates;

(3) analyzes the progress made by the OAS to adopt and effectively implement transparent and merit-based human resource standards and practices and transparent hiring, firing, and promotion standards and processes, including with respect to factors such as gender and national origin;

(4) analyzes the progress made by the OAS to adopt and effectively implement a practice of soliciting member quotas to be paid on a schedule that will improve the consistency of its operating budget; and

(5) analyzes the progress made by the OAS to review, streamline, and prioritize mandates to focus on core missions and make efficient and effective use of available funding.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. MEEKS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on this measure in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, at this time, I yield myself such time as I may consume to explain that this legislation would require the Secretary of State to develop a multiyear strategy to bolster the Organization of American States, OAS as we know it, and

improve the performance and the process for managing the budget and the personnel at the OAS.

When it was founded in 1948, it was the sole multilateral body in the Western Hemisphere. As the premier hemispheric organization, the OAS' key institutional documents—its charter, the American Declaration of Rights, the Inter-American Democratic Charter—enshrine values that are the foundation for political systems in the Americas.

Since its founding, the OAS has accepted too many mandates from its member states, resulting in a loss of international focus, and in turn has reduced, frankly, the organization's effectiveness. This bill seeks to push the OAS to refocus on those two core principles of promoting democratic governance and institutions and resolving regional disputes.

This push comes as other regional bodies are competing with the OAS for regional influence. There is the Central American System of Integration, the Union of South American Nations, and the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, which includes Cuba but excludes both the United States and Canada.

Many of these political bodies do not represent our values. Most exclude the U.S. Many are used by governments in the region to undermine the U.S., thus undermining U.S. diplomacy in the hemisphere.

In order to maintain the OAS as an influential, positive force and to defend U.S. engagement, it is important that the U.S. spearhead an effort to reform the OAS and address its many administrative challenges.

This bill calls on the administration to develop a strategy that helps the OAS focus on its core mission, shed nonessential programs, install a results-based budgeting process, and adopt transparent, competitive personnel practices.

Additionally, this bill was strengthened in committee to recognize that it is not politically or financially viable for any OAS member state, including the United States, to pay more than 50 percent of the institution's assessed fees.

I reserve the balance of my time, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in strong support of S. 793, as amended.

Mr. Speaker, the OAS remains the premier regional forum for the countries of the Americas to conduct multilateral business, an important aspect of U.S. relations with its neighbors.

The bill before us today seeks to support the organization, particularly with respect to democracy promotion and the protection of human rights.

The version we are poised to pass today in the House adds an important provision to the bipartisan Senate bill introduced by the Senator from New Jersey, BOB MENENDEZ, the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.



This new provision requires the State Department to examine ways to ensure that in the future no OAS member state pays more than 50 percent of the regular budget.

Currently, based on a legacy fee structure from a different era, the U.S. does pay more than 50 percent, with a series of distorting results.

A modernized OAS would benefit from a more egalitarian fee structure. The new provision asks State to lay out a roadmap to achieve such a fee structure, and hopefully opens up the conversation with our fellow member states in the OAS in the spirit of consensus and partnership.

I would like to thank Chairman ROYCE and Ranking Member ENGEL for working, truly, again, as we have done and seen time and time again on the Foreign Affairs Committee, really working in a bipartisan manner on this bill. We know sometimes it is not easy, but they have managed to do it. I thank them for that.

I urge my colleagues to support it, and reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROYCE. I would like to thank Mr. MEEKS.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I ask unanimous consent to yield the balance of my time to the gentlelady from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) and that she be able to control that time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I thank our esteemed chairman for this privilege to speak about an important bill before us.

I would like to commend Senator BOB MENENDEZ, my dear friend from New Jersey, for introducing this pivotal bill, an important bipartisan bill, to bring desperately needed reforms to this failed Organization of American States.

I remain deeply disappointed, Mr. Speaker, that the OAS continues to fail to live up to the principles of the Inter-American Democratic Charter. The OAS should be, but is not, an important regional body that stands up for democratic principles, that promotes the rule of law and condemns human rights violations.

However, the OAS has strayed. This bill is a positive step forward to bring it back onto the right path.

Throughout the region, Mr. Speaker, we have seen ALBA nations continue to ignore their own constitution and deprive their people of the most basic human rights.

Has the OAS spoken out against the illegitimate elections in Venezuela? How about the illegitimate elections in Nicaragua? Or what about the continued human rights abuses against the people of Cuba?

Just this past Sunday, Mr. Speaker, more than 30 pro-democracy advocates who were peacefully gathering in Cuba

were detained and beaten by agents of the regime—for doing nothing. But the OAS remains silent on all of these important topics, and in doing so it fails to hold accountable the authoritarian regimes that oppress millions in our own hemisphere.

□ 1730

That is why real and concrete reforms are needed at the OAS. I fully support this legislation because it strengthens our mission at the OAS, and it ensures that U.S. taxpayer dollars are used well and no longer go to waste as they are at the OAS right now.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MEEKS. I have no further requests for time and am ready to close, and so I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, let me just state again about the hard work of Chairman ROYCE and Ranking Member ENGEL and their working in a bipartisan manner to get this bill done. It's difficult at times when you have different views on different issues; but I think that, when you have individuals working together across the aisle who are trying to come up with the appropriate compromise for an organization that is needed to have the strength to protect human rights and to make sure there is democracy, working together to get them on the right track, as Mr. ROYCE has indicated, is important. To also have the other body, the Senate, working with us so it's bicameral is a tremendous effort, I think, on both sides in trying to make sure that we have an organization in our hemisphere that is doing the right thing, and we've got to do it on a continuous basis, being sturdy, being forceful but also being bipartisan.

Let me just finally say that the manner in which this bill has come together is the manner in which I wish many bills could come together on this floor and in working with the other body.

I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I want to thank our esteemed chairman, Mr. ED ROYCE of California, and our committee's ranking member, Mr. ELIOT ENGEL of New York, for their work on this bipartisan-bicameral effort to take one step—just the first step—at deep OAS reform.

I want to thank Senator BOB MENENDEZ, the author of the bill, who has been a longtime supporter and a leader in favor of human rights, the rule of law and democracy, especially in our hemisphere. All of us and our committee look forward to working with Senator MENENDEZ and with all of our Members and the other body, as well, as we move forward to enact this bill and make sure that we have true,

meaningful reforms and that we endeavor to get the OAS, once again, focused back on their core mission, which should be and remains promoting democracy and human rights in the Americas, a mission from which it has strayed far too often, including up to today.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 793, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

#### E. CLAY SHAW JR. MISSING CHILDREN'S ASSISTANCE REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2013

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3092) to amend the Missing Children's Assistance Act, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3092

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "E. Clay Shaw, Jr. Missing Children's Assistance Reauthorization Act of 2013".

#### SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Section 402 of the Missing Children's Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5771) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (3) through (9) as paragraphs (4) through (10), respectively, and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

“(3) many missing children are run-aways;”.

(b) DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS OF ADMINISTRATOR.—Section 404 of the Missing Children's Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5773) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (5)—

(i) by striking “Representatives, and” and inserting “Representatives, the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives,”; and

(ii) by inserting “, and the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate” after “Senate”;

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (4) and (5) as (5) and (6), respectively, and

(C) by inserting after paragraph (3) the following:

“(4) coordinate with the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness to ensure that homeless services professionals are aware of educational resources and assistance provided by the Center regarding child sexual exploitation;”.

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in subparagraph (C)—  
 (I) by striking “and” after “governments,” and  
 (II) by inserting “State and local educational agencies,” after “agencies.”,  
 (ii) in subparagraph (R) by striking “and” at the end,  
 (iii) in subparagraph (S) by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon, and  
 (iv) by adding at the end the following:

“(T) provide technical assistance and training to State and local law enforcement agencies and statewide clearinghouses to coordinate with State and local educational agencies in identifying and recovering missing children;

“(U) assist the efforts of law enforcement agencies in coordinating with child welfare agencies to respond to foster children missing from the State welfare system; and

“(V) provide technical assistance to law enforcement agencies and first responders in identifying, locating, and recovering victims of, and children at risk for, child sex trafficking.”, and

(B) by amending paragraph (2) to read as follows:

“(2) LIMITATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no Federal funds may be used to pay the compensation of an individual employed by the Center if such compensation, as determined at the beginning of each grant year, exceeds 110 percent of the maximum annual salary payable to a member of the Federal Government’s Senior Executive Service (SES) for that year. The Center may compensate an employee at a higher rate provided the amount in excess of this limitation is paid with non-Federal funds.

“(B) DEFINITION OF COMPENSATION.—For the purpose of this paragraph, the term ‘compensation’—

“(i) includes salary, bonuses, periodic payments, severance pay, the value of a compensatory or paid leave benefit not excluded by clause (ii), and the fair market value of any employee perquisite or benefit not excluded by clause (ii); and

“(ii) excludes any Center expenditure for health, medical, or life insurance, or disability or retirement pay, including pensions benefits.”

(3) in subsection (c)(1)—

(A) by striking “periodically” and inserting “triennially”, and

(B) by striking “kidnapings” and inserting “kidnappings”, and

(4) in subsection (c)(2) by inserting “, in compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (20 U.S.C. 1232g)” after “birth certificates”.

(C) GRANTS.—Section 405(a) of the Missing Children’s Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5775(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1) by inserting “schools, school leaders, teachers, State and local educational agencies, homeless shelters and service providers,” after “children,” and

(2) in paragraph (3) by inserting “and schools” after “communities”.

### SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 407 of the Missing Children’s Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5777) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a) by striking “such” and all that follows through the period at the end, and inserting “\$40,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2014 through 2018, up to \$32,200,000 of which shall be used to carry out section 404(b) for each such fiscal year.”, and

(2) by striking “SEC. 407” and inserting “SEC. 408”.

### SEC. 4. OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY.

The Missing Children’s Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5771 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 406 the following:

#### “SEC. 407. OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY.

“All grants awarded by the Department of Justice that are authorized under this title shall be subject to the following:

“(1) AUDIT REQUIREMENT.—For 2 of the fiscal years in the period of fiscal years 2014 through 2018, the Inspector General of the Department of Justice shall conduct audits of the recipient of grants under this title to prevent waste, fraud, and abuse by the grantee.

“(2) MANDATORY EXCLUSION.—If the recipient of grant funds under this title is found to have an unresolved audit finding, then that entity shall not be eligible to receive grant funds under this title during the 2 fiscal years beginning after the 12-month period described in paragraph (4).

“(3) REPAYMENT OF GRANT FUNDS.—If an entity is awarded grant funds under this title during the 2-fiscal-year period in which the entity is barred from receiving grants under paragraph (2), the Attorney General shall—

“(A) deposit an amount equal to the grant funds that were improperly awarded to the grantee into the General Fund of the Treasury; and

“(B) seek to recoup the costs of the repayment to the fund from the grant recipient that was erroneously awarded grant funds.

“(4) DEFINED TERM.—In this section, the term ‘unresolved audit finding’ means an audit report finding in the final report of the Inspector General of the Department of Justice that the grantee has utilized grant funds for an unauthorized expenditure or otherwise unallowable cost that is not closed or resolved within a 12-month period beginning on the date when the final audit report is issued.

“(5) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION REQUIREMENTS.—

“(A) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section and the grant programs described in this title, the term ‘nonprofit’, relating to an entity, means the entity is described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of such Code.

“(B) PROHIBITION.—The Attorney General shall not award a grant under any grant program described in this title to a nonprofit organization that holds money in off-shore accounts for the purpose of avoiding paying the tax described in section 511(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

“(C) DISCLOSURE.—Each nonprofit organization that is awarded a grant under this title and uses the procedures prescribed in regulations under section 53.4958-6 of title 26 of the Code of Federal Regulations to create a rebuttable presumption of reasonableness of the compensation for its officers, directors, trustees and key employees, shall disclose to the Attorney General the process for determining such compensation, including the independent persons involved in reviewing and approving such compensation, the comparability data used, and contemporaneous substantiation of the deliberation and decision. Upon request, the Attorney General shall make the information available for public inspection.

“(6) CONFERENCE EXPENDITURES.—

“(A) LIMITATION.—No amounts authorized to be appropriated under this title may be used to host or support any expenditure for conferences that uses more than \$20,000 unless the Deputy Attorney General or the appropriate Assistant Attorney General, Director, or principal deputy director as the Deputy Attorney General may designate, provides prior written authorization that the funds may be expended to host a conference.

“(B) WRITTEN APPROVAL.—Written approval under subparagraph (A) shall include a written estimate of all costs associated with the conference, including the cost of all

food and beverages, audio/visual equipment, honoraria for speakers, and any entertainment.

“(C) REPORT.—The Deputy Attorney General shall submit an annual report to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate, the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives on all conference expenditures approved by operation of this paragraph.

“(7) PROHIBITION ON LOBBYING ACTIVITY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Amounts authorized to be appropriated under this title may not be utilized by any grant recipient to—

“(i) lobby any representative of the Department of Justice regarding the award of any grant funding; or

“(ii) lobby any representative of a Federal, state, local, or tribal government regarding the award of grant funding.

“(B) PENALTY.—If the Attorney General determines that any recipient of a grant under this title has violated subparagraph (A), the Attorney General shall—

“(i) require the grant recipient to repay the grant in full; and

“(ii) prohibit the grant recipient from receiving another grant under this title for not less than 5 years.

“(C) CLARIFICATION.—For purposes of this paragraph, submitting an application for a grant under this title shall not be considered lobbying activity in violation of subparagraph (A).”

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) and the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WILSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 3092.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Kentucky?

There was no objection.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3092, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

As a father of three children, I can’t imagine the horror if one of my children were missing or were in harm’s way. Just like any other parent, the thought is unthinkable and is one that I am thankful to have never experienced.

My first exposure to the issues facing at-risk populations, such as those served by programs authorized by the underlying law, was as a cadet at West Point, which is just north of New York City. There was a shelter in New York City for runaway children. It was heartbreaking to hear the stories of these children, many of whom were abused or neglected and had no homes to return to. Oftentimes children who have run away from their homes are the most in danger of being killed or exploited. Approximately 80 percent of children reported missing are, in fact, categorized as “endangered runaways.” These vulnerable kids deserve help.

My bill, H.R. 3092, will reauthorize the Missing Children’s Assistance Act

at current funding levels. Reauthorizing this critical law will ensure that the coordination of State and local law enforcement efforts to identify, locate, and recover missing, abducted, and sexually exploited children continues. We cannot afford to wait.

The world around us, while often kind and beautiful, can also be cruel and ugly; but it is through the work of groups like the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children that resources are available to assist those in dire need. Chances are that you've seen a hotline come across your TV screen that is looking to collect information about a missing child but you've never thought about the infrastructure behind these efforts. This legislation seeks to reauthorize these critical programs and ensure no gap in access for the children, families, and communities in need.

Since its founding in 1984, the center, while partnered with local law enforcement, has helped recover more than 188,000 missing children across the United States. April 9, 2014, marks the 30th anniversary of the Justice Department's awarding the first national clearinghouse grant to the center. Just 2 months after its creation, in June of 1984, President Reagan celebrated the official opening of the center at a White House ceremony, praising this model of public-private partnership, which has fulfilled his vision for three decades.

I applaud the efforts of Chairman KLINE, Representative WALBERG, and my fellow committee members for understanding the importance of this legislation and in helping to move it forward. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3092 so we can continue to support these vital programs.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in strong support of H.R. 3092, the Missing Children's Assistance Reauthorization Act of 2013. This bill will be named after former Congressman E. Clay Shaw, from my State of Florida, who was a defender of children's rights and who recently passed away.

Since its inception in 1984, the Missing Children's Assistance Act has helped identify and recover millions of missing and exploited children across our Nation. Now that it is due to expire at the end of this month, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to reauthorize this critical legislation that protects society's most vulnerable citizens—our precious children. We have made progress. We now have the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and the AMBER Alert, but we still have so much work to do. There are still too many tragic cases of children being abducted, raped, sexually abused, and murdered.

As a parent, a grandparent, an elementary schoolteacher, and a school principal, I was deeply shaken when a beautiful 4-year-old girl, who was in

the custody of the foster care system, went missing in my own community. She was missing for 2 years before anyone even knew it. She has never been found. Rilya Wilson's disappearance exposed many of the shortcomings of the Department of Children and Families in my home State of Florida. One of the most troubling aspects of Rilya's case was the fact that Rilya had been withdrawn from preschool. No one gave the foster parent permission to withdraw her.

If she were still in school, there would have been so many eyes watching—teachers, parents, and her peers. If she were still in school, somebody would have known that she was missing. If this bill were in place, Rilya would have been saved by sensible procedures. H.R. 3092 adds commonsense coordination and oversight provisions that will facilitate the protection of foster youth like Rilya.

First, the bill updates the law that provides Federal support for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. The center, which heads national efforts to locate and return missing children to their families, helps to stop the kidnapping and sexual exploitation of young people nationwide. They staff 24-hour-a-day, 7-day-a-week call lines to both recover missing children and report child exploitation.

Since its inception in 1984, the center has received 200,062 calls for missing children, or an average of 548 calls per day; and it has responded to over 3.7 million calls overall. Thanks to the center's call hotline, the vast majority of missing children has been recovered quickly.

Second, and specific to Rilya's case, H.R. 3092 requires the national center to help law enforcement work with child welfare agencies to respond to missing foster children. Foster children continue to go missing at much higher rates than their peers, and their disappearances tend to go unreported for much longer periods of time.

Under H.R. 3092, law enforcement agencies must notify the national center of each report received relating to missing children from foster care. This reauthorization also requires that Federal resources support the training and technical assistance of law enforcement to work effectively with public schools in order to identify and recover missing children. It assists law enforcement in preventing and recovering missing children with disabilities.

H.R. 3092 improves the current efforts of the center to identify, locate, and recover victims of child sex trafficking. It also directs the center to raise awareness about prevention and educational services for programs that support homeless youths who are at significant and increasing risk of sexual exploitation.

I am delighted to see Democrats and Republicans come together in order to stand up strong for missing and exploited children. I would like to thank Chairman KLINE and his staff for their

efforts in working with Ranking Member MILLER and his staff. I would like to thank the nonprofit advocates and the bipartisan Senate staff for developing this legislation to reauthorize the Missing Children's Assistance Act.

□ 1745

For me, this is personal. It is about a little girl named Rilya Wilson, a foster child born to a drug addicted mother. It's about Rilya's legacy and the legacy of so many foster children who suffer. For all of us, this should be a simple and sensible way to honor our children and protect society's most vulnerable citizens. This is a great day in the House of Representatives.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I very much appreciate the strong words of support from my friend from Florida.

I now yield 3 minutes to the chairman of the Education and the Workforce Committee, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. KLINE), my friend.

Mr. KLINE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Kentucky for yielding the time and for introducing this important legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in very strong support today of H.R. 3092, the E. Clay Shaw, Jr. Missing Children's Assistance Reauthorization Act of 2013.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3092 will help prevent the abduction and sexual exploitation of children. Since 1984, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children has worked with the Department of Justice to build a coordinated national system to aid the recovery of missing children, protect children from sexual exploitation, and promote child safety and crime prevention. Over the last three decades, the center has assisted law enforcement in finding thousands of missing children, and its success rate has grown from 62 percent in 1990 to 97 percent today; and through its CyberTipline, the center has received and referred for investigation more than 2 million reports of crimes against children.

This bill will ensure the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children can continue its work on behalf of our most vulnerable citizens while also taking steps to protect taxpayers through enhanced accountability and oversight. Additionally, the legislation supports greater coordination between law enforcement and States, districts, and schools in the race to recover missing children. Furthermore, the E. Clay Shaw, Jr. Missing Children's Assistance Reauthorization Act includes language from a bill authored by my colleague from Michigan, Mr. TIM WALBERG, that will strengthen the center's work with law enforcement to rescue victims of sex trafficking.

Mr. Speaker, this is a good bill. It helps to protect and defend America's children and their families. I applaud and thank Mr. GUTHRIE for his work on this legislation, and I strongly urge my colleagues to lend their support.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, as my friend from Florida said, we were able

to work together—House and Senate, Republicans and Democrats—for a very important issue. And I want to thank my colleagues who were here speaking to the importance of H.R. 3092, the E. Clay Shaw, Jr. Missing Children's Assistance Reauthorization Act of 2013.

The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children has assisted law enforcement in the recovery of more than 188,389 missing children since it was founded in 1984. As of June 2013, the center's toll-free, 24-hour call center received more than 3.8 million calls. Reauthorizing this law will ensure that the critical coordination of State and local enforcement efforts by the center on behalf of missing, abducted, and sexually exploited children continues.

I'm honored to take the lead on this important legislation and urge my colleagues to support this bill so we can continue these vital programs.

Again, I thank both sides for working together, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3092, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

#### AGREEMENT ON SOCIAL SECURITY BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 113-62)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed:

#### *To the Congress of the United States:*

Pursuant to section 233(e)(1) of the Social Security Act, as amended by the Social Security Amendments of 1977 (Public Law 95-216, 42 U.S.C. 433(e)(1)) (the "Social Security Act"), I transmit herewith an Agreement on Social Security between the United States of America and the Slovak Republic (the "United States-Slovak Republic Totalization Agreement"). The Agreement consists of two separate instruments: a principal agreement and an administrative arrangement. The Agreement was signed in Bratislava on December 10, 2012.

The United States-Slovak Republic Totalization Agreement is similar in objective to the social security totalization agreements already in force with most European Union countries,

Australia, Canada, Chile, Japan, Norway, and the Republic of Korea. Such bilateral agreements provide for limited coordination between the United States and foreign social security systems to eliminate dual social security coverage and taxation and to help prevent the lost benefit protection that can occur when workers divide their careers between two countries. The United States-Slovak Republic Totalization Agreement contains all provisions mandated by section 233 of the Social Security Act and other provisions that I deem appropriate to carry out the purposes of section 233, pursuant to section 233(c)(4) of the Social Security Act.

I also transmit for the information of the Congress a report prepared by the Social Security Administration explaining the key points of the United States-Slovak Republic Totalization Agreement, along with a paragraph-by-paragraph explanation of the provisions of the principal agreement and administrative arrangement. Annexed to this report is another report required by section 233(e)(1) of the Social Security Act on the effect of the United States-Slovak Republic Totalization Agreement on income and expenditures of the U.S. Social Security program and the number of individuals affected by the United States-Slovak Republic Totalization Agreement.

BARACK OBAMA.

THE WHITE HOUSE, September 17, 2013.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 53 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CHAFFETZ) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

#### REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 761, NATIONAL STRATEGIC AND CRITICAL MINERALS PRODUCTION ACT OF 2013

Mr. BISHOP of Utah, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 113-214) on the resolution (H. Res. 347) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 761) to require the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to more efficiently develop domestic sources of the minerals and mineral materials of strategic and critical importance to United States economic and national security and manufacturing competitiveness, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 3092, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 2449, by the yeas and nays;

S. 793, by the yeas and nays.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

#### E. CLAY SHAW, JR. MISSING CHILDREN'S ASSISTANCE REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2013

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3092) to amend the Missing Children's Assistance Act, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 407, nays 2, not voting 23, as follows:

[Roll No. 460]

YEAS—407

Alexander	Castor (FL)	Duncan (SC)
Amodei	Castro (TX)	Duncan (TN)
Andrews	Chabot	Edwards
Bachmann	Chaffetz	Ellison
Bachus	Chu	Ellmers
Barber	Cicilline	Engel
Barletta	Clarke	Enyart
Barr	Clay	Eshoo
Barrow (GA)	Cleaver	Esty
Barton	Clyburn	Farenthold
Bass	Coble	Farr
Beatty	Coffman	Fattah
Becerra	Cohen	Fincher
Benishek	Cole	Fitzpatrick
Bentivolio	Collins (GA)	Fleischmann
Bera (CA)	Collins (NY)	Fleming
Bilirakis	Conaway	Flores
Bishop (GA)	Connolly	Forbes
Bishop (NY)	Conyers	Fortenberry
Bishop (UT)	Cook	Foster
Black	Cooper	Fox
Blackburn	Costa	Frankel (FL)
Blumenauer	Cotton	Franks (AZ)
Bonamici	Courtney	Frelinghuysen
Boustany	Cramer	Fudge
Brady (PA)	Crawford	Gabbard
Brady (TX)	Crenshaw	Gallego
Braley (IA)	Crowley	Garamendi
Bridenstine	Cuellar	Garcia
Brooks (AL)	Culberson	Gardner
Brooks (IN)	Cummings	Garrett
Brown (FL)	Davis (CA)	Gibbs
Brownley (CA)	Davis, Danny	Gibson
Buchanan	Davis, Rodney	Gingrey (GA)
Bucshon	DeFazio	Gohmert
Burgess	DeGette	Goodlatte
Bustos	Delaney	Gosar
Butterfield	DeLauro	Gowdy
Calvert	DelBene	Granger
Camp	Denham	Graves (GA)
Campbell	Dent	Graves (MO)
Cantor	DeSantis	Grayson
Capps	DesJarlais	Green, Al
Capuano	Deutch	Green, Gene
Cárdenas	Dingell	Griffin (AR)
Carney	Doggett	Griffith (VA)
Carson (IN)	Doyle	Grimm
Carter	Duckworth	Guthrie
Cartwright	Duffy	Hahn

Hall  
Hanabusa  
Hanna  
Harper  
Harris  
Hartzler  
Hastings (FL)  
Hastings (WA)  
Heck (NV)  
Heck (WA)  
Hensarling  
Himes  
Hinojosa  
Holding  
Holt  
Honda  
Horsford  
Hoyer  
Hudson  
Huelskamp  
Huffman  
Huizenga (MI)  
Hultgren  
Hunter  
Hurt  
Israel  
Issa  
Jackson Lee  
Jeffries  
Jenkins  
Johnson (GA)  
Johnson (OH)  
Johnson, E. B.  
Johnson, Sam  
Jones  
Jordan  
Joyce  
Kaptur  
Keating  
Kelly (IL)  
Kelly (PA)  
Kennedy  
Kildee  
Kilmer  
Kind  
King (IA)  
King (NY)  
Kingston  
Kinzinger (IL)  
Kirkpatrick  
Kline  
Kuster  
Labrador  
LaMalfa  
Lamborn  
Lance  
Langevin  
Lankford  
Larsen (WA)  
Larson (CT)  
Latham  
Latta  
Levin  
Lewis  
Lipinski  
LoBiondo  
Loeb sack  
Lofgren  
Long  
Lowenthal  
Lowey  
Lucas  
Luetkemeyer  
Lujan Grisham (NM)  
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)  
Lummis  
Lynch  
Maffei  
Maloney, Carolyn  
Maloney, Sean  
Marchant  
Marino  
Massie  
Matheson  
Matsui  
McCarthy (CA)

McCaul  
McClintock  
McCollum  
McDermott  
McGovern  
McHenry  
McIntyre  
McKeon  
McKinley  
McMorris  
Rodgers  
McNerney  
Meadows  
Meehan  
Meeks  
Meng  
Messer  
Mica  
Michaud  
Miller (FL)  
Miller (MI)  
Miller, George  
Moore  
Moran  
Mullin  
Mulvaney  
Murphy (FL)  
Murphy (PA)  
Napolitano  
Neal  
Negrete McLeod  
Neugebauer  
Noem  
Nolan  
Nugent  
Nunes  
Nunnelee  
O'Rourke  
Olson  
Owens  
Palazzo  
Pallone  
Pascrell  
Pastor (AZ)  
Paulsen  
Payne  
Pearce  
Pelosi  
Perlmutter  
Perry  
Peters (CA)  
Peters (MI)  
Peterson  
Petri  
Pingree (ME)  
Pittenger  
Pitts  
Pocan  
Poe (TX)  
Pompeo  
Posey  
Price (GA)  
Price (NC)  
Quigley  
Radel  
Rangel  
Reed  
Reichert  
Renacci  
Ribble  
Rice (SC)  
Richmond  
Rigell  
Roby  
Roe (TN)  
Rogers (AL)  
Rogers (KY)  
Rogers (MI)  
Rokita  
Rooney  
Ros-Lehtinen  
Roskam  
Ross  
Roybal-Allard  
Royce  
Ruiz  
Runyan

## NAYS—2

Amash  
Broun (GA)

## NOT VOTING—23

Aderholt  
Capito  
Cassidy  
Daines  
Diaz-Balart  
Gerlach  
Grijalva  
Gutiérrez  
Herrera Beutler  
Higgins  
Lee (CA)  
McCarthy (NY)

Ruppersberger  
Ryan (OH)  
Ryan (WI)  
Salmon  
Sanchez, Loretta  
Sanford  
Sarbanes  
Scalise  
Schakowsky  
Schiff  
Schneider  
Schock  
Schrader  
Schweikert  
Scott (VA)  
Scott, Austin  
Scott, David  
Sensenbrenner  
Serrano  
Sessions  
Sewell (AL)  
Shea-Porter  
Shimkus  
Shuster  
Simpson  
Sinema  
Slaughter  
Smith (MO)  
Smith (NE)  
Smith (NJ)  
Smith (TX)  
Smith (WA)  
Southernland  
Speier  
Stewart  
Stivers  
Stockman  
Stutzman  
Swalwell (CA)  
Takano  
Terry  
Thompson (CA)  
Thompson (MS)  
Thompson (PA)  
Thornberry  
Tiberi  
Tierney  
Tipton  
Titus  
Tonko  
Turner  
Upton  
Valadao  
Van Hollen  
Vargas  
Veasey  
Vela  
Velázquez  
Visclosky  
Wagner  
Walberg  
Walden  
Walorski  
Walz  
Wasserman  
Schultz  
Watt  
Waxman  
Weber (TX)  
Webster (FL)  
Welch  
Wenstrup  
Westmoreland  
Whitfield  
Williams  
Wilson (FL)  
Wilson (SC)  
Wittman  
Wolf  
Womack  
Woodall  
Yarmuth  
Yoder  
Yoho  
Young (AK)  
Young (FL)  
Young (IN)

Miller, Gary  
Polis  
Rahall  
Rohrabacher  
Rush  
Sanchez, Linda  
T.  
Tsongas  
Waters  
Messrs. HARRIS, KENNEDY, and Ms. HAHN changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

□ 1856

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. DAINES. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 460, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted “yes.”

# AUTHORITY TO EXTEND THE UNITED STATES-REPUBLIC OF KOREA NUCLEAR COOPERATION AGREEMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2449) to authorize the President to extend the term of the Agreement for Cooperation between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Korea Concerning Civil Uses of Nuclear Energy for a period not to exceed March 19, 2016, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 407, nays 0, not voting 25, as follows:

[Roll No. 461]

## YEAS—407

Aderholt  
Alexander  
Amash  
Amodei  
Andrews  
Bachmann  
Bachus  
Barber  
Barletta  
Barr  
Barrow (GA)  
Barton  
Bass  
Beatty  
Becerra  
Benishke  
Bentivolio  
Bera (CA)  
Bilirakis  
Bishop (GA)  
Bishop (NY)  
Bishop (UT)  
Black  
Blackburn  
Blumenauer  
Bonamici  
Boustany  
Brady (PA)  
Brady (TX)  
Braley (IA)  
Bridenstine  
Brooks (AL)  
Brooks (IN)  
Broun (GA)  
Brown (FL)

Edwards  
Ellison  
Ellmers  
Engel  
Enyart  
Eshoo  
Esty  
Farenthold  
Farr  
Fattah  
Fincher  
Fitzpatrick  
Fleischmann  
Fleming  
Flores  
Forbes  
Fortenberry  
Foster  
Fox  
Frankel (FL)  
Franks (AZ)  
Frelinghuysen  
Fudge  
Gabbard  
Gallego  
Garamendi  
Garcia  
Gardner  
Garrett  
Gibbs  
Gibson  
Gingrey (GA)  
Gohmert  
Goodlatte  
Gosar  
Gowdy  
Granger  
Graves (GA)  
Graves (MO)  
Grayson  
Green, Al  
Green, Gene  
Griffin (AR)  
Griffith (VA)  
Grimm  
Guthrie  
Hahn  
Hall  
Hanabusa  
Hanna  
Harper  
Hartzler  
Hastings (FL)  
Hastings (WA)  
Heck (NV)  
Heck (WA)  
Hensarling  
Himes  
Hinojosa  
Holding  
Holt  
Honda  
Horsford  
Hoyer  
Hudson  
Huelskamp  
Huffman  
Huizenga (MI)  
Hultgren  
Hunter  
Hurt  
Israel  
Issa  
Jackson Lee  
Jeffries  
Jenkins  
Johnson (GA)  
Johnson (OH)  
Johnson, E. B.  
Johnson, Sam  
Jones  
Jordan  
Joyce  
Kaptur  
Keating  
Kelly (IL)  
Kelly (PA)  
Kennedy  
Kildee  
Kilmer  
Kind  
King (IA)  
King (NY)  
Kingston  
Kinzinger (IL)  
Kirkpatrick  
Kline  
Kuster  
Labrador

LaMalfa  
Lamborn  
Lance  
Langevin  
Lankford  
Larsen (WA)  
Larson (CT)  
Latham  
Latta  
Levin  
Lewis  
Lipinski  
LoBiondo  
Loeb sack  
Lofgren  
Long  
Lowenthal  
Lowey  
Lucas  
Luetkemeyer  
Lujan Grisham (NM)  
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)  
Lummis  
Lynch  
Maffei  
Maloney, Carolyn  
Maloney, Sean  
Marchant  
Marino  
Massie  
Matheson  
Matsui  
McCarthy (CA)  
McCaul  
McClintock  
McCollum  
McDermott  
McGovern  
McHenry  
McIntyre  
McKeon  
McKinley  
McMorris  
Rodgers  
McNerney  
Meadows  
Meehan  
Meeks  
Meng  
Messer  
Mica  
Michaud  
Miller (FL)  
Miller (MI)  
Miller, George  
Moore  
Moran  
Mullin  
Mulvaney  
Murphy (FL)  
Murphy (PA)  
Nadler  
Napolitano  
Neal  
Negrete McLeod  
Neugebauer  
Noem  
Nolan  
Nugent  
Nunes  
Nunnelee  
O'Rourke  
Olson  
Owens  
Palazzo  
Pallone  
Pascrell  
Pastor (AZ)  
Paulsen  
Payne  
Pearce  
Pelosi  
Perlmutter  
Perry  
Peters (CA)  
Peters (MI)  
Peterson  
Petri  
Pingree (ME)  
Pittenger  
Pitts  
Pocan  
Poe (TX)  
Pompeo  
Posey  
Price (NC)

Quigley  
Radel  
Rangel  
Reed  
Reichert  
Renacci  
Ribble  
Rice (SC)  
Richmond  
Rigell  
Roby  
Roe (TN)  
Rogers (AL)  
Rogers (KY)  
Rogers (MI)  
Rokita  
Rooney  
Ros-Lehtinen  
Roskam  
Ross  
Rothfus  
Roybal-Allard  
Royce  
Ruiz  
Runyan  
Ruppersberger  
Ryan (OH)  
Ryan (WI)  
Salmon  
Sanchez, Loretta  
Sanford  
Sarbanes  
Scalise  
Schakowsky  
Schiff  
Schneider  
Schock  
Schrader  
Schweikert  
Scott (VA)  
Scott, Austin  
Scott, David  
Sensenbrenner  
Serrano  
Sessions  
Sewell (AL)  
Shea-Porter  
Shimkus  
Simpson  
Sinema  
Slaughter  
Smith (MO)  
Smith (NE)  
Smith (NJ)  
Smith (TX)  
Smith (WA)  
Southernland  
Speier  
Stewart  
Stivers  
Stockman  
Stutzman  
Swalwell (CA)  
Takano  
Terry  
Thompson (CA)  
Thompson (MS)  
Thompson (PA)  
Thornberry  
Tiberi  
Tierney  
Tipton  
Titus  
Tonko  
Turner  
Upton  
Valadao  
Van Hollen  
Vargas  
Veasey  
Visclosky  
Wagner  
Walberg  
Walden  
Walorski  
Walz  
Wasserman  
Schultz  
Waters  
Watt  
Waxman  
Weber (TX)  
Webster (FL)  
Welch  
Wenstrup  
Westmoreland  
Whitfield  
Williams  
Wilson (FL)



Wilson (SC)	Woodall	Young (FL)
Wittman	Yoder	Young (IN)
Wolf	Yoho	
Womack	Young (AK)	

## NOT VOTING—25

Cohen	McCarthy (NY)	Schwartz
Diaz-Balart	Miller, Gary	Sherman
Gerlach	Polis	Shuster
Grijalva	Price (GA)	Sires
Gutiérrez	Rahall	Tsongas
Harris	Rohrabacher	Vela
Herrera Beutler	Rush	Velázquez
Higgins	Sánchez, Linda	Yarmuth
Lee (CA)	T.	

□ 1902

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## MOMENT OF SILENCE IN TRIBUTE TO THE 12 NAVY YARD SHOOTING VICTIMS

(Ms. NORTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank four former officers of the United States Navy—Representatives Murphy, Broun, Bridenstine, and DeSantis—for joining me as I rise in tribute to 12 Americans, almost all Federal employees, who lost their lives in the service of the United States yesterday in a mass shooting at the Navy Yard. They were civilian employees doing work for the Naval Sea Systems Command. Unlike the blue collar workers of the old Navy Yard, Naval Sea Systems Command employees are skilled white collar workers, highly trained to offer technical support for building, buying, and manufacturing the Navy's ships and combat systems.

The Navy Yard was renovated with historic deference to the old manufacturing workplace, and the Naval Sea Systems Command jump-started the development of the neighborhood that received them. The Naval Sea Systems Command became a good neighbor, though we knew little of the work done in that secure facility. We did know this: these Federal employees deserved our respect and our admiration because they and their work were vital to our Nation.

We ask the House to join us for a moment of silence for these 12 who gave all they had for their country:

Michael Arnold, Martin Bodrog, Arthur Daniels, Sylvia Frasier, Kathleen Gaarde, John Roger Johnson, Mary Francis Knight, Frank Kohler, Vishnu Pandit, Kenneth Bernard Proctor, Gerald L. Read, and Richard Michael Ridgell.

The SPEAKER. The House will observe a moment of silence.

## ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES REVITALIZATION AND REFORM ACT OF 2013

The SPEAKER. Without objection, 5-minute voting will continue.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 793) to support revitalization and reform of the Organization of American States, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 383, nays 24, not voting 25, as follows:

[Roll No. 462]

## YEAS—383

Aderholt	Cotton	Harper
Alexander	Courtney	Harris
Amodei	Cramer	Hartzler
Andrews	Crawford	Hastings (FL)
Bachmann	Crenshaw	Hastings (WA)
Bachus	Crowley	Heck (NV)
Barber	Cuellar	Heck (WA)
Barletta	Culberson	Hensarling
Barr	Cummings	Himes
Barrow (GA)	Daines	Hinojosa
Barton	Davis (CA)	Holding
Beatty	Davis, Danny	Holt
Becerra	Davis, Rodney	Honda
Benishek	DeFazio	Horsford
Bentivolio	DeGette	Hoyer
Bera (CA)	Delaney	Huffman
Bilirakis	DeLauro	Huizenga (MI)
Bishop (GA)	DelBene	Hultgren
Bishop (NY)	Denham	Hunter
Bishop (UT)	Dent	Hurt
Black	DeSantis	Israel
Blackburn	DesJarlais	Issa
Blumenauer	Deutch	Jackson Lee
Bonamici	Dingell	Jeffries
Boustany	Doggett	Jenkins
Brady (PA)	Doyle	Johnson (GA)
Brady (TX)	Duckworth	Johnson (OH)
Braley (IA)	Duffy	Johnson, E. B.
Bridenstine	Duncan (TN)	Johnson, Sam
Brooks (AL)	Edwards	Jordan
Brooks (IN)	Ellison	Joyce
Brown (FL)	Ellmers	Kaptur
Brownley (CA)	Engel	Keating
Buchanan	Eshoo	Kelly (IL)
Bucshon	Esty	Kelly (PA)
Burgess	Farenthold	Kennedy
Bustos	Farr	Kildee
Butterfield	Fattah	Kilmer
Calvert	Fitzpatrick	Kind
Camp	Fleischmann	King (IA)
Campbell	Flores	King (NY)
Cantor	Forbes	Kinzing (IL)
Capito	Fortenberry	Kirkpatrick
Capps	Foster	Kline
Capuano	Fox	Kuster
Cárdenas	Frankel (FL)	LaMalfa
Carney	Franks (AZ)	Lance
Carson (IN)	Frelinghuysen	Langevin
Carter	Gabbard	Lankford
Cartwright	Galleo	Larsen (WA)
Cassidy	Garamendi	Latham
Castor (FL)	Garcia	Latta
Castro (TX)	Gardner	Levin
Chabot	Garrett	Lewis
Chaffetz	Gibbs	Lipinski
Chu	Gibson	LoBiondo
Cicilline	Gingrey (GA)	Loebuck
Clarke	Goodlatte	Lofgren
Clay	Gosar	Long
Cleaver	Gowdy	Lowenthal
Clyburn	Granger	Lowey
Coble	Graves (MO)	Lucas
Coffman	Grayson	Luetkemeyer
Cohen	Green, Al	Lujan Grisham
Cole	Green, Gene	(NM)
Collins (GA)	Griffin (AR)	Luján, Ben Ray
Collins (NY)	Griffith (VA)	(NM)
Conaway	Grimm	Lummis
Connolly	Guthrie	Lynch
Conyers	Hahn	Maffei
Cook	Hall	Maloney,
Cooper	Hanabusa	Carolyn
Costa	Hanna	Maloney, Sean

Marchant	Petri	Smith (TX)
Marino	Pingree (ME)	Smith (WA)
Matheson	Pittenger	Southerland
Matsui	Pitts	Speier
McCarthy (CA)	Pocan	Stewart
McCaul	Pompeo	Stivers
McClintock	Posey	Stutzman
McCollum	Price (NC)	Swalwell (CA)
McDermott	Quigley	Takano
McGovern	Radel	Terry
McHenry	Rangel	Thompson (CA)
McIntyre	Reed	Thompson (MS)
McKeon	Reichert	Thompson (PA)
McKinley	Renacci	Thornberry
McMorris	Richmond	Tiberi
Rodgers	Rigell	Tierney
McNerney	Roby	Tipton
Meadows	Roe (TN)	Titus
Meehan	Rogers (AL)	Tonko
Meeks	Rogers (KY)	Turner
Meng	Rogers (MI)	Upton
Messer	Rokita	Valadao
Mica	Rooney	Van Hollen
Michaud	Ros-Lehtinen	Vargas
Miller (FL)	Roskam	Veasey
Miller (MI)	Ross	Vela
Miller, George	Rothfus	Velázquez
Moore	Roybal-Allard	Visclosky
Moran	Royce	Wagner
Mullin	Ruiz	Walberg
Mulvaney	Runyan	Walden
Murphy (FL)	Ruppersberger	Walorski
Murphy (PA)	Ryan (OH)	Walz
Nadler	Ryan (WI)	Wasserman
Napolitano	Sanchez, Loretta	Schultz
Neal	Sarbanes	Waters
Negrete McLeod	Schiff	Watt
Neugebauer	Schneider	Schock
Noem	Schock	Schrader
Nugent	Schweikert	Nunes
Nunes	Scott (VA)	Nunnelee
O'Rourke	Scott, Austin	O'Rourke
Olson	Scott, David	Olson
Owens	Sensenbrenner	Owens
Palazzo	Serrano	Palazzo
Pallone	Sessions	Pallone
Pascarella	Sewell (AL)	Pascarella
Pastor (AZ)	Shea-Porter	Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen	Shimkus	Paulsen
Payne	Shuster	Payne
Pearce	Simpson	Pearce
Pelosi	Sinema	Pelosi
Perlmutter	Slaughter	Perlmutter
Peters (CA)	Smith (MO)	Peters (CA)
Peters (MI)	Smith (NE)	Peters (MI)
Peterson	Smith (NJ)	Peterson

## NAYS—24

Amash	Huelskamp	Ribble
Broun (GA)	Jones	Rice (SC)
Duncan (SC)	Kingston	Salmon
Fincher	Labrador	Sanford
Fleming	Lamborn	Scalise
Gohmert	Massie	Stockman
Graves (GA)	Perry	Weber (TX)
Hudson	Poe (TX)	Westmoreland

## NOT VOTING—25

Bass	Larson (CT)	Rush
Diaz-Balart	Lee (CA)	Sánchez, Linda
Enyart	McCarthy (NY)	T.
Fudge	Miller, Gary	Schakowsky
Gerlach	Nolan	Schwartz
Grijalva	Polis	Sherman
Gutiérrez	Price (GA)	Sires
Herrera Beutler	Rahall	Tsongas
Higgins	Rohrabacher	

□ 1914

Messrs. POE of Texas, PERRY, and DUNCAN of South Carolina changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, due to a flight delay, I was unable to be in attendance for tonight's votes. Had I been present, I would



have voted in support of H.R. 3092, H.R. 2449, and S. 793.

#### THE FIRST RESPONDERS OF THE COLORADO FLOODS

(Mr. GARDNER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank the many first responders, National Guard, volunteers, and local leaders who have worked tirelessly, beginning in the middle of last week, in order to respond to the floods in Colorado. An area the size of Connecticut has been impacted by over 20 inches of rain in certain areas of the State; 19,000 homes have been damaged or destroyed; and countless people have had their lives changed forever.

But as is the case with all tragedies in Colorado and across this great country, we come together as a community, as neighbors to help one another in times such as these. We know in the months and years to come there will be great challenges, and there will be trying times as we try to find answers for those families who lost so much.

So, Mr. Speaker, we recognize those efforts, such as HelpColoradoNow.org, that are doing so much good for the people there. This has happened before—a great tragedy. We've come together, but we will rise up. We will be stronger because we are Colorado.

#### SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

(Ms. DUCKWORTH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. Speaker, several weeks ago, we had a deeply partisan debate about cuts to SNAP. The proposed cuts by the majority were then \$20 billion—a number that many of my colleagues and I found unacceptable and rejected. The majority has now doubled these cuts to \$40 billion a year—nine times the amount passed in a bipartisan vote in the Senate. They have abandoned all attempts at bipartisanship and compromise to satisfy the unreasonable demands of the far right.

Mr. Speaker, we should not be playing politics with a program that means so much to American families. The \$40 billion in cuts will slash benefits to as many as 6 million Americans, including 170,000 veterans. The average benefit for SNAP is only \$4.50 a day—just \$1.50 a meal.

As someone who benefited from food stamps when I was a teenager, I know what the safety net means. This benefit is the difference between a child going to bed hungry or having the energy to focus on school. It is the safety net that allows low-income seniors to be able to both eat and afford medication. In my district, the poverty rate rose from 5.3 percent in 2000 to 9.2 percent in 2011. We need to be finding ways

to reduce poverty in our communities, not cutting programs that work, like SNAP.

#### ODD GUN POLICY

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it seems the administration has finally made up its mind and will arm the Syrian rebels. Never mind Syria is in the messy midst of a civil war. That involvement is not in the national security interest of the United States.

The other rebel groups include foreign mercenaries, criminals, and, in my opinion, half are al Qaeda operatives. That includes al Qaeda from the state of Iraq and al-Nusra, an al Qaeda terrorist group. The last I heard, Mr. Speaker, the United States is at war with al Qaeda.

There is no way our government can prevent the guns sent to Syria from getting into the hands of al Qaeda rebels. The administration constantly and conveniently goes out of its way to keep Americans from possessing firearms, but it seems to be enthusiastically delighting in running guns into other countries—to groups like drug cartels in Mexico, rebel groups in Libya and al Qaeda in Syria.

Odd gun policy, don't you think, Mr. Speaker?

And that's just the way it is.

#### SAFE CLIMATE CAUCUS

(Mr. WAXMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, today, the Safe Climate Caucus held a remarkable forum. It was the first time in Congress that individuals were invited to talk about the personal hardships they have experienced as a result of climate change. We heard from witnesses from around the country.

Matt Russell, an Iowa farmer, told us how his crops had been flooded by record rains. Hugh Fitzsimons, a Texas rancher, described how his herd was decimated by a record drought. Emily Dondero from Sonora, California, explained how the massive California Rim fire is devastating her community. Stephanie Kravitz, a New York homeowner, talked about the devastation she suffered when Superstorm Sandy struck Long Island, New York, and Reverend Tyrone Edwards from Louisiana spoke movingly of the damage inflicted on his community by enormous hurricanes.

For these Americans, climate change is already painfully real. They told us climate change is not a distant threat. As scientist Noah Diffenbaugh explained, it is already affecting families across the country.

The witnesses ask that Congress stop denying the science. They want action, and I think it's about time we start to listen.

#### MEDICARE ORTHOTICS AND PROSTHETICS IMPROVEMENT ACT

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, when unlicensed and unaccredited providers are allowed to deliver prosthetic and orthotic services through Medicare, both Medicare beneficiaries and the American taxpayers are shortchanged.

Unfortunately, the orthotics and prosthetics market currently is prone to fraud and abuse, where substandard products and services are being furnished to Medicare beneficiaries and other patients. Despite congressional mandates, not enough has been done to ensure that legitimate practitioners are providing these items and services.

Moments ago, I, along with my colleague MIKE THOMPSON of California, introduced the Medicare Orthotics and Prosthetics Improvement Act of 2013. This commonsense piece of legislation will protect Medicare beneficiaries by identifying and addressing fraudulent payments, and it will hold government accountable by reducing fraud and abuse within Medicare.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join us in this bipartisan effort by co-sponsoring H.R. 3112, the Medicare Orthotics and Prosthetics Improvement Act of 2013.

#### ANOTHER MASS SHOOTING IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. "I heard 'pow, pow, pow.' Then for a few seconds, it stopped and then 'pow, pow, pow.' I just started running."

Mr. Speaker, the sentiments of this newspaper fell upon me and many other Americans, the words again—"another mass shooting in the United States of America."

Now, at the Naval Sea Systems Command—the naval command here in Washington, D.C.—and in coming from Texas, it reminded me of the horrific tragedy and terrorist act of Fort Hood. If you cannot call this terrorism, you could call it a domestic rampage, but what you could call it is a failing for what we in the United States Congress have not done, and that is to pass universal background checks and to focus on the mental health needs of those who are disturbed and might cause the havoc and the loss of life of so many that families today mourn.

As we stand here today, the question becomes: How much longer will it take us to pass sensible gun legislation to stop this violence?

I pray for those who have lost their lives, Mr. Speaker, and I ask this Congress to act and to pass universal background checks and the stopping of

these ridiculous top secret clearances by outsourcing.

#### NATIONAL CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

(Mr. PAULSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, this is National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month.

Childhood cancers are the leading cause of death by disease amongst children in our country; and each year, nearly 13,400 children are diagnosed with cancer.

I have been privileged to have met with many doctors and researchers who spend every day searching for answers in Minnesota's award-winning institutions, like the Mayo Clinic, the Children's Hospital of Minnesota, the Gillette Children's Hospital, and the University of Minnesota. There is no doubt that we can be proud of the incredible work that they are doing in Minnesota.

I am also cosponsoring legislation that will make cancer treatments more affordable for families and will encourage the development of new treatments by redirecting taxpayer funds that are spent on Presidential campaigns into childhood cancer research.

Mr. Speaker, we all look forward to the day when cancer is 100 percent treatable in our children, and that's why I stand alongside doctors and families and, most importantly, cancer patients in the search for a cure.

#### AMERICA'S INHERENT FREEDOMS ARE BEING ATTACKED

(Mr. HUELSKAMP asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HUELSKAMP. Mr. Speaker, freedom of speech and religion and the recognition of the God-given dignity of every human life are core principles upon which America was founded, but these inherent freedoms are being attacked.

The Southern Poverty Law Center is one of the worst offenders—targeting and persecuting Americans who stand up for their moral convictions. This group routinely attacks mainstream, pro-family organizations, slandering them with false accusations of hatred and bigotry. Motivated by their inflammatory rhetoric, a gunman burst into the Family Research Council's lobby last year and shot a security guard, later admitting that the assault was inspired by the Southern Poverty Law Center's hate list.

We cannot let the beacon of freedom, known as America, become home to hate groups and other extremists, including those who slander their political opponents.

□ 1930

#### CONSTITUTION DAY

(Mr. BENTIVOLIO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, on this Constitution Day, I want to applaud those in the Armed Forces who take a pledge to honor and defend the Constitution at the risk of life and limb.

Every generation of Americans has been protected by what Frederick Douglass once called "that glorious liberty document." We should take the time today to salute those who defend the Constitution. I fear that sometimes we take for granted the sacrifice that these brave men and women bear.

They, like their predecessors, are the ones who allow us to secure our freedoms in the Constitution to pass down to future generations. They are the ones that allow us to gather here today to do the will of the people. They are the reason why the Constitution has lasted over two centuries as the prime example in the world of a free government.

#### MAKE IT IN AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WENSTRUP). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from California (Mr. GARAMENDI) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, earlier in the session today, we paused in remembrance of those who were killed here in Washington, D.C., yesterday, yet another tragedy for this Nation, another shooting, senseless rage by some individual. We heard on the floor here a few minutes ago a plea by some of our colleagues to call us to action so that we who represent the millions upon millions of Americans would find within ourselves the courage to take action on wise gun safety legislation, mental health, and other things that we know can help to address the problem that plagues this Nation. So today, as we start this one-hour, I want to just remind ourselves that we have work to do here.

Joining me tonight is PAUL TONKO, a Representative from the State of New York. We often have had the opportunity to speak on the floor about the issues that confront us. Perhaps, PAUL, you may want to comment on this tragedy, and then we'll turn to the other issues that we want to take up today.

Mr. TONKO. Thank you, Representative GARAMENDI, and thank you for bringing us together on what will be thoughtful discussion in how to invest in America and grow the economy and grow job opportunities, create that climate that best cultivates job action and job growth in our society.

Just moments ago on the House floor, we held a moment of silence in

recognition, in commemoration and respect for those who gave it their all, as many were Federal employees in that situation. I also want to attach my comments to those of yours in extending my condolences to the many family members and friends who are so impacted by this tragedy, this horrific act that wiped out their lives prematurely. May they rest in peace.

Mr. GARAMENDI. I join you in those condolences.

Our subject matter for the evening was really going to be about the economy, about income within this Nation, or the lack of it.

I want to just start by referring to a statement that Franklin Delano Roosevelt made during the economic crisis of the 1930s. In fact, this statement is etched in the marble at the F.D.R. memorial here in Washington, D.C. He said:

The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much; it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little.

The test of our progress. Well, what has been our progress over these last several years?

This last week, the economic study of the progress of America since the great crash of 2007 was made public. There has been progress. There has been economic growth. There has been the creation of wealth. We have seen progress, but it's not the kind of progress that F.D.R. talked about in the thirties. What we have seen is exactly the opposite of what he called for: to provide more for those who have little.

Here it is, the tale of two Americans, a stunted recovery, but, nonetheless, a recovery.

Where did the economic growth go? Where did the wealth go that was created? Was it to those who have little? No. No. No. Ninety-five percent of all of the wealth that this economy created since 2007 in the great crash went to the top 1 percent. Ninety-five percent of all of the wealth went to the top 1 percent. The remaining 99 percent wound up with 5 percent of the wealth that the Nation's biggest economy created since the crash of 2007. Franklin Delano Roosevelt would not have stood for it, and he didn't. Nor did Bill Clinton.

From 1993 to 2000, the economy grew very rapidly. The distribution of the wealth that was created during those years went in a remarkably different way than what has happened over the last 5 years. During the Clinton period, 55 percent of all the wealth that this Nation created went to the bottom 99 percent. The top 1 percent did very well. They got 45 percent of all of the wealth. You can say that was not enough for the bottom 99 percent, and I would agree; but compared to what's happened over these last 5 years, it's a remarkable improvement on the distribution of wealth.

What is the distribution of wealth? It's not a class struggle. It's about the

men and women of this Nation that work hard, that get up every day, go to their jobs, as did those 12 people who were killed yesterday here at the Navy Yard in Washington, D.C. They got up. They went to their job. They worked hard for themselves, for their families, and for this Nation.

So men and women all across this Nation are doing what we want them to do: participating in this society, following the American Dream. They work hard, play by the rules, get on the economic ladder and climb.

Here's what happened to them: not much.

Something is desperately wrong here in America that the result of 5 years of labor by the 99 percent, that they would find their reward to be 5 percent of the wealth that was created. We need to address this, and tonight our subject matter is how we can do that.

Before we go to that, I want to put up one more chart and then ask my colleague to join in.

What does it really mean down home? What does it mean out there in the subdivision or in the tenements? What does it mean in America when 95 percent of all of the wealth created winds up in the hands of 1 percent?

Here's what it means:

It means that there's hunger in America;

It means that mothers and fathers are not able to have a job that they can provide their children with a meal, with food on the table;

It means that in this House of Representatives there will be this day, this week, an effort to provide even more hunger in America, more children going without food as the supplemental food program is slashed by \$40 billion. That's \$4 billion a year for 10 years, \$40 billion, so that the 1 percent can have even more.

This is not right. It is not right in this Nation that we have hunger. It is not America as it should be, and it certainly is not the way Franklin Delano Roosevelt said America should be when the test of our progress is not whether we add more abundance to those who have much; it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little.

We have a challenge here in America. We need to change things. We need to change the public policies that would deny food to hungry children, to parents, to our seniors, to our children in schools. It's time for us to put in place policies that create a real economic growth, real growth that the working men and women of this Nation can share in the economic progress of our Nation, and tonight we're going to spend some time talking about how we can do that.

My friend from New York, PAUL TONKO.

Mr. TONKO. Representative GARAMENDI, you have highlighted in very stark contrast the difference in the thought process and the philosophy of what was then under President Franklin Roosevelt and what is now,

and certainly what had happened during the Clinton years, which proved much more progressive in its nature.

If we think of that quote of President Roosevelt where society needed to be tested as to whether or not they were going to add more, add to the abundance of those who have much, that was a tremendous litmus test. It was a challenge to this country to search deep into its moral compass. What you're highlighting here, Representative GARAMENDI, is that it's an ebb and flow. It's looking for ways to pay for tax breaks for those who are perched way on the top.

Where you talk of that 95 percent, 98 percent of the growth of the economy going to the top 1 percent, that's unsustainable. When you think of the gimmickry that is going on, to be able to provide for the cost of such spending—because these tax breaks for those perched on the top is an order of spending—it's done through cuts to programs that speak to hunger, cuts that will impact seniors, cuts that will impact our very young, cuts that will impact our struggling families.

There is no mistake between the correlation of tough times and those who are dependent on a number of Federal programs. Throughout history, you can suggest through data that are compiled that those charts go upward when you have tough times and the reliance on some of these programs grows, and it's not unusual that has happened during the recession. So some struggling families required assistance.

You also have the elderly population that have nutrition inserted as part of their health care formula and is part of their wellness agenda. If a diabetic does not get their nutritional needs met, there are problems. If there are situations where people are doing without food, it can be the difference between quality of life and sometimes survival because of the absolute need to have a well-balanced nutritional program.

The same is true of our very young. We cannot ask our young children to go without the nutritional values they require or ask them to study at their best level in a classroom on an empty belly.

The moral compass is very direct here. It points our way and challenges us to take those words uttered decades ago by President Roosevelt. They speak with greater resonance, a deeper more profound resonance than they had when they were perhaps first uttered by the late former President. We need to take that to mind. We need to have history speak to us. We need to look at what happened when we invested in America, in her working families in the toughest of times.

When we think of the progress made during those Roosevelt years, that was a gentleman who was challenged in his own right and who led this Nation, lifted this Nation's economy while serving in a wheelchair. That is a powerful statement, one that had progressive

outcomes written all over it. We need to go forward and look at these orders of investment that will grow the economy, a tax policy that draws fundamental fairness so that there isn't this gross disparity between growth for some and denial for others.

It's absolutely statistically tracked now from as far along as the mid to late seventies to today. You can chart what has happened with some of these efforts to reduce assistance to working families in middle-income communities. It is unsustainable. We cannot grow an economy with these sorts of policies in play.

So tonight, let's look at those investments, from education, higher education, to infrastructure, to advanced manufacturing that is required so as to allow us to compete effectively in a global economy where our manufacturing base can survive if we do it smarter, not necessarily cheaper. If we do it smarter, we will land contracts, grow jobs with the productivity factor that is developed by inserting our policies into the transformation into an advanced manufacturing economy and by providing the investments that will draw policies that are progressive and more resources that will provide a lucrative dividend, make them an investment rather than outright spending, as we saw with some of these tax relief measures which did not produce a growth in the economy and just made life very comfortable for a very relative few.

□ 1945

So I think the challenge is before us to go forward and put a sound budget together—none of this kicking the can down the road with a continuing resolution. Let's name the designees to the conference table from each House, from each party. The President has outlined the budget with his administration. The United States Senate passed its version of a budget. The House has passed its version of a budget. Let's name the participants at the conference table. Let's do it in daylight. Let's flood the lights on the process. Let's show the sharp contrast between the various solutions and recommended approaches that will allow the public to be best engaged in the process and to understand the wisdom or lack thereof of some of the moves that are required or requested of us here in the House.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. TONKO, thank you very much. You are quite correct that we need to move in that direction. The American economy is about 60–70 percent based upon consumer purchases of homes and cars and all those other goods. Part of that reason that we're not seeing the kind of economic growth that would normally occur in a recovery is the 99 percent don't have money. They lost a great deal of their wealth. Trillions of dollars of their wealth was wiped out in the financial collapse, their pensions, their homes and equity in their home. As the economy has recovered, the creation of the

growth, the wealth, didn't go to them so they have not been able to really increase their purchasing power, which has dampened the economy.

Now, there are things that we can do. You were beginning that process. Let's go through them. I'm going to put this back up because this is not just a picture of the distribution of wealth in the economy, that is, the economic growth; it is also a picture of why the economy hasn't really returned. There are other factors, to be sure, but clearly the absence of purchasing power, that is, new wealth in the hands of the 99 percent, the absence of that has retarded the economic recovery.

This is something we have talked about here many, many times, and Mr. TONKO brought this up, many of these issues. We call it the Make It In America agenda. This follows along on President Obama's jobs program. Many of these elements are the same as he proposed. They are displayed a little differently here.

Tax policy; critically important. We need to redo our tax policy. Mr. TONKO talked about the tax policy and the effect that we've seen over these many years. But what I would like to do today is focus on these others issues, the issue of infrastructure, research, education, labor, and energy.

On the labor side, we have talked about that a great deal here. The working men and women, laboring as they are, are they getting a fair share of the economic growth? The answer is categorically, no. Are there policies that can change that? Yes. One of them has been of discussion here in Congress, which is the minimum wage issue. California has a minimum wage law that is before the Governor. He is expected to sign it, and that will push the minimum wage up to about I think \$10 an hour, and that will cause the entire wage structure in California to move upward, shifting wealth to the working men and women in California. Whether the Nation will follow that, the President has called for an increase in the minimum wage, and that will certainly be helpful in shifting to the working population of this Nation a larger share, or at least a fair share of the growth of the economy.

Let's talk about infrastructure for awhile. I know this is an issue you were working on, Mr. TONKO, following the floods of a year ago. We see those same floods—different floods, but devastating floods, occurring in Colorado. You were one of the strong advocates for rebuilding our infrastructure. Why don't you pick that issue up, and let's talk about how we might be able to accomplish that.

Mr. TONKO. There again, it's policy or lack thereof that's impacting us heavily. Witnessing some of the unusual 100-year storms, 500-year storms as they're designated in a rapid succession over the last several years, dating back to the late 1980s, but then in rapid succession 2006, 2011 and 2012 in upstate New York in an area that I represent,

or just south of me in the area that borders my district, tells me that even the nomenclature is ludicrous. It is not a 100 or 500-year storm; it's happening frequently. And it is because we don't embrace some of the science out there that, through data compilation, is begging our attention. If we're going to continue to ignore those impacts of Mother Nature, if we're going to ignore the global warming and impacts of Mother Nature on our infrastructure, we are going to have more and more bills for cleanup.

And is it just replacement, or are we talking about reevaluating situations? For instance, some of the electrical utility efforts that stayed most abundantly strong were distributed energy projects along the coast in metro New York with Superstorm Sandy. I saw infrastructure, bridges displaced by the powerful force of water, in some places equated to the cfs, the cubic feet per second, flow of Niagara Falls. So the data are telling you that these storms are more and more frequent, you're going to get this extra volume of water, precipitation, do you just replace, or do you take a longer span, greater height to that bridge design? These are things that need to be discussed. Again, it is going to be money coming out of the pocket because we're not dealing with the fundamental science that is telling us we should anticipate more and more of these storms.

The infrastructure along these efforts, the coastal erosion, is requiring all sorts of improvements of ports. This affects our economy. This requires a master plan. This requires a Make It In America agenda that puts into play investments into our infrastructure, to replace what has been damaged with a sound investment, reinvestment here, that improves upon a situation rather than just replaces when we know that it will probably not withstand the forces of Mother Nature into the future. So infrastructure is critical, and the millions that we can put to work with that kind of legislation. The President has called for improvement in our infrastructure that will put millions to work. The best way to resolve a deficit in this country is to have people going to work. The dignity that comes with that investment in work opportunity is good for working class families across this country. So we know what to do. Let's get on with the business.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. TONKO, we were talking about this earlier before we came up here, and you may want to take up this issue. This is an issue of what an infrastructure investment needs to grow the economy.

Mr. TONKO. It speaks also to the order of investments, rather than the order of spending, as some might label it. As we improve our infrastructure, for every dollar invested, according to Mark Zandi, chief economist with Moody's and former economic adviser to Senator JOHN MCCAIN, \$1.57 is real-

ized for every \$1 that's invested. To me, that is a lucrative dividend. That is an opportunity for us to grow the economy by investing dollars, with the anticipation that there will be a good return on that investment. That's how it works. That's the beauty of building. I think it's what President Roosevelt saw in the 1930s and 1940s. He saw this opportunity to respond to the needs of America, public works projects that were absolutely essential, building water treatment centers, building schools and infrastructure, roads and the like.

President Eisenhower saw the beauty of an interstate highway system, putting people to work and making strong opportunities available for commerce. These are the fundamental needs of a sophisticated society. It's the needs of certainly America in a modern age, innovation economy. So the roads and bridges as traditional sources, water treatment facilities, utility grid upgrades, telecommunications, this goes well into the new technology spheres of today where you wire communities and neighborhoods for business. There is a dire need for that sort of activity. That puts people to work. That's an investment that will draw a rate of return on the dollars invested in those projects, and that's what makes the wisdom of that approach very remarkably sound and comprehensible.

I think history has taught us well, and for us to ignore history at a moment when we are still struggling with this comeback. And yes, there has been a steady growth in private sector jobs, but many propositions sent to the House and to the United States Senate by the Chief Executive, by the President, have been denied simply because of the source from whom they are coming. Let's be frank about this. This is not the time to play personality warfare. It's time to do sound, progressive policies that provide for then good politics, bipartisan politics for this Nation and her people and her working families. It's as simple as that. Let's go forward, invest in our manufacturing base. Innovation economy, clean energy economy, which requires the tools of a modern-day economy so we can build it cheaper and smarter perhaps, but definitely cheaper. That's how you land those contracts in the international marketplace.

So I am hopeful that our best days, Representative GARAMENDI, lie ahead if we have the tenacity, if we have the integrity to go forward with what are the soundest of policies and the boldness of investments that are done, that are placed on the table with the full anticipation and expectation that there is a reasonable rate of return on that investment.

Mr. GARAMENDI. We know there is an immediate return on investment in infrastructure. Mark Zandi laid it out there. You invest \$1 in infrastructure now, and you get back \$1.57, and you have somebody working immediately. They become a taxpayer rather than a

tax receiver. So there are some real opportunities here.

I want to just take a couple of seconds. I was reading *The Wall Street Journal* as I was flying from California today, and there was an article by Martin Feldstein, who was Ronald Reagan's chief economic adviser, and he focused in his article on several things and growing the economy. How do you get the economy growing? He specifically talked about infrastructure. He talked about infrastructure as a way to immediately employ people. We certainly agree with that. And it's also a way you lay the foundation for future economic growth because that infrastructure is then available for the future.

I was in Fresno, California, I guess 2 or 3 years ago, and went to the high school to talk at an educational conference there, and they are setting this conference in an auditorium that was built by the WPA, the Works Progress Administration in the Roosevelt period, the Franklin Delano Roosevelt period. So we were using this wonderful auditorium 70 years later. You go, wow, there's an infrastructure investment in education.

So it is by building this infrastructure we employ people immediately, and we then have the foundation for future economic growth.

You mentioned the water system, sanitation, electrical energy systems. Roads, highways and the like. And it's jobs today. I want to talk about how we can finance them.

Mr. TONKO. Don't forget our ports, our rail, our airports.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Let's not forget, this is not new economics. George Washington in his first month in office, and this is the first President, folks, his first month in office, turned to his Treasury Secretary, Alexander Hamilton, and said, develop an economic policy. Hamilton came back a couple of months later, not with a report that we would have, several thousand pages, but maybe 50 or 60 pages, and he laid out an economic policy. Number one on his agenda was to build America's infrastructure—ports, canals.

I know you're going to launch into the Erie Canal now that I've mentioned canals, which is your favorite subject. And he also talked about roads. He talked about laying down the infrastructure for the growth of the economy.

Before we get to your Erie Canal, I want to talk about something that actually happened. This is a good thing. This is a very good thing.

In the stimulus bill, which by the way did work, not as robust as we would have liked, but it did work, there was a provision to build locomotives for Amtrak. I think it was about \$800 million over a period of years would be spent on building locomotives for the east coast.

□ 2000

This is so you can get home, Mr. TONKO, on the east coast here. These

locomotives were to be 100 percent American-made. I don't know who wrote that provision, but it was one of the very few provisions in the stimulus bill that said make it in America, 100 percent American-made.

Siemens, a German company, one of the big international industrial companies, said, \$800 million. Oh, you have to make it in America. Okay.

Siemens had a factory in Sacramento, California, to manufacture light rail cars, you know, street cars and the like. They got this contract.

This is the first locomotive made in America by Siemens under that stimulus provision. They're going to make, I think, 80 of these over the period of the next several years, 100 percent American-made.

And now, across the United States, as a result of this infrastructure investment, we're beginning to see companies in a supply chain, some that are making the wheels, the truck underneath, which is where the wheels attach to the locomotive, the facility up on top that attaches to the electric lines. All of this, American-made, 100 percent American-made.

And by the way, I have a piece of legislation in that would continue that that says if you're going to spend your tax money on transportation systems, highways, bridges, locomotives and the like, it's going to be your tax money used to buy American-made equipment, just like George Washington said we ought to do it.

Mr. TONKO. Well, you know, it does go back to our humble beginnings. And again, history instructs us. History, if we allow it, will guide us. In some of our toughest times we realize some of our greatest, most monumental success stories.

And you did mention the canal, which for my area, I see the 20th Congressional District that I represent, is a donor area for that canal.

But I just want to make this factoid available. In those times, people look back, and they think, well, what a wonderful project, and it probably sailed through. No, it met with great controversy, and it was proposed because of economic difficult times.

And here was a vision. That's leadership. Give us the vision of how you can grow the economy, what can we do that is strong and forceful and will change the outcomes out there. And it was this connection of a port, in a little town called New York, that gave birth to a necklace of communities called mill towns in upstate New York that became epicenters of invention and innovation.

That all came about with a struggle, a struggle to find the investment available to build this canal. So the struggle will always be there.

Mr. GARAMENDI. What was that canal?

Mr. TONKO. The Erie Canal, barge canal history, which is wonderful.

But my point here is that there will always be struggle. For issues, there

will be a counterforce to every force of perceived good that can happen, but that doesn't mean we should walk away because the climate or the environment is difficult.

We go forward. We know what has to be done. History has been instructing us here. Science, through data compilation, is reminding us of some very tortuous outcomes that have been part of very atypical storms. Superstorm Sandy, which gripped the entire Northeast, was atypical. Tropical storms and hurricanes in upstate New York, unheard of, that produced all sorts of damage, including loss of life, loss of farm land, valuable farm land, loss of businesses, loss of homes in some ways, totally swept away by the forces of water.

That is a difficult situation that needs to be addressed with infrastructure improvements. If not, if we do not take this to heart and mind, we will be, I believe, a lesser society for not having paid strict attention to both science and history which ought to guide us.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Well, if you take a look at Superstorm Sandy—I don't know what they're going to call the storm that is occurring in Colorado, but we're also seeing the necessity to prepare for climate change and these new very strong, very dangerous storms that we now have seen repeated.

There's going to be a major infrastructure investment rebuilding Colorado, just as there was a major infrastructure investment in rebuilding the east coast following Superstorm Sandy. As that investment is made, we will see the economy begin to pick up as men and women return to work, if we take—what I think we ought to do is to spend that money on American-made concrete and steel and the like. As we rebuild these necessary infrastructure works we will add to the economic potential of that rebuilding.

Now, how are we going to pay for it?

Let's get down to what has been, I think, the most common complaint here: oh, you're just going to borrow the money and we're going to run up the deficit.

Well, Martin Feldstein was very clear today that if you make an investment in infrastructure, you're going to immediately employ people, and you will be making a major step towards solving the deficit problem. You do that now, he said. Begin that investment now.

Yes, you're going to borrow the money, not all of it, and there are ways that we can get, that we'll deal with that.

But there is a necessity of enhancing the economy. His suggestion was the infrastructure as one of the principal ways of doing that.

Now, we have ways of financing this. It's been discussed forever, dating back to the mid- and early nineties, that we ought to have an infrastructure bank.

The Europeans have an infrastructure bank. It's proved to be very successful. The money goes out to build

infrastructure. The repayment is made by bridge tolls, by fees on roads, by canal fees, other kinds of fees. That money comes back. It's circulated.

The President has called for an infrastructure bank, taking an idea that's been before Congress for the last 20 years, and he said, let's do it. Let's do it. We can borrow money at the Federal level still, less than 3 percent, sometimes 2 percent, put that into an infrastructure bank, invite the private sector pension funds and others to become part of that bank, and then lend that money out to those projects that have a cash flow, toll bridges, sanitation projects, waterworks, other kinds of things, so that we can get this economy moving.

We also had a program coming out of the stimulus bill called Build America Bonds, BABs, Build America Bonds. Those lasted all of 2 years, and then our colleagues here refused to reenact the Build America Bonds. These are other ways in which local entities can borrow the money and build the infrastructure and get their economy going.

And, furthermore, laying the foundation for future economic growth: you can't build a city on yesterday's infrastructure. You need to replace it, to be sure; and this is part of the problem in our cities, the aging infrastructure, the waterworks, the sanitation system and the rest. We need to rebuild that, but you also need to expand the infrastructure.

One final way that we can talk about financing this is how we do spend the tax revenue that does come in to the American Treasury.

Right now, Congress is debating on how to spend money for the next fiscal year which begins on October 1, how are we going to spend it.

Part of that appropriation process is to appropriate \$87 billion for the Afghanistan war in the coming year, October 1 through the 2014 year, until September 30, \$87 billion for Afghanistan.

How much money for flood protection in Colorado, flood protection in my district, flood protection across the Eastern Seaboard to build the seawalls? Virtually nothing.

But \$87 billion for Afghanistan. For what? For what? To build facilities that we will either destroy as we leave or will be destroyed shortly after we leave?

Seven billion dollars for the Afghan National Army, \$2.5 billion of which is for good things to be done, no line items, no particular knowledge about what they're going to spend that money on. I suspect most of it's going to wind up in some bank account by some crook in the Bahrain banks. \$2.5 billion.

What could we do with \$2.5 billion here in America?

And by the way, we're drawing down the troops in Afghanistan. We're actually going to spend more money in Afghanistan next year than we are this year, even though we have 60 percent fewer troops in Afghanistan.

We're making choices. Your Representatives, 435 of us, and 100 Members of the Senate, are making choices about how your money's going to be spent.

And by the way, I haven't talked about the nuclear bombs, 5,000 of them. We're going to rebuild them. Now, there's a good investment. Really?

I don't think so, not when the levees in my district can't be rebuilt to protect my citizens from floods, to rebuild a nuclear weapon that we don't need in the first place. I don't think so.

So we're making choices. We're making choices for you, the American taxpayers, about how your money's going to be spent.

For me, I want to spend it in America. I want to spend it on American-made goods and equipment, not on products from China, as happened with the newly reopened San Francisco-Oakland Bay bridge—steel from China, not from America.

I want that money spent here, and I want that money spent on our infrastructure, on our education, on research, energy projects.

We're going to make choices. We're making those choices right now. We're up against the wall. By the end of this month, September 30, the government runs out of money.

Where are we going to spend it?

Or are we going to spend it all?

Are we just going to shut down government?

I don't know. I'm worried. I'm worried about the choices that we're making. I'm worried about more expenditure in Afghanistan and not here at home. I'm worried about rebuilding all these nuclear weapons that, God willing, we'll never use.

Choices. Can we actually build America?

Can we find the willingness to create an infrastructure bank?

Can we find the willingness to bring the money back home and spend it here to build this economy?

Because, ultimately, as our Joint Chiefs of Staff have said repeatedly, it's the American economy. Without that strength, there won't be military strength.

I've gone on too far here. Mr. TONKO, let's begin to wrap this up.

Mr. TONKO. Yes. In fact, I will offer my closing comments here, Representative GARAMENDI.

You know, I think what you talk about in choices are exactly what a budget is about. It's the priorities we establish, in a bipartisan fashion and a bicameral way, that enable us to go forward with the best blueprint that grows the most hope and promise for this Nation. If we can deliver that hope, we've done our job.

This is about investing in the American Dream. It's about responding to that old, old adage within this Nation that you tether that American Dream here in this wonderful Nation, where people rightfully anticipate that if they play by the rules, they roll up

their sleeves, they invest their talents and their skills and their intellect and their passions into work, they rightfully anticipate to taste success; and that allows them to have an equal shot at opportunity in this Nation.

That has not been the guiding course. We have had an unlevel playing field. We have made choices that have penalized the great percentage of Americans; 95 to 98 percent of Americans have been impacted by some of these choices and priorities to the negative.

And so it's important for us, I believe, to offer that dream, that American Dream, the underpinnings of support that it rightfully requires.

The cost of a college education ought to be addressed by Washington. We need to forcefully come up with a plan that reduces that cost, because that higher ed opportunity, those apprenticeship programs are training the workforce of tomorrow. And without that workforce, without that human infrastructure, we are less robust in our competitive force.

What about the investment, as Representative GARAMENDI mentioned, in infrastructure?

What about that infrastructure bill that has worked well in sections of the globe?

Why not go forward with that opportunity so that small business can prosper in that outcome?

The great engine of this economy, of this comeback, has been small business growth; jobs provided by those business citizens who are tethered to their community, who have enabled women and men in all sections of this country to draw a paycheck through some sort of commitment that they make as a small business person, giving that work opportunity to their neighbors and to the communities that they call home.

That's the strength that we need for small business so that we can continue to be that engine of comeback. That comeback scenario is incredibly valuable to this Nation.

And what about going forward with the commitment?

There's a soundness of that moral compass that should guide us. Forever there will be those who require justice in our society, economic and social justice.

We're reminded by our Founding Parents that we are in search of a more perfect Union. Well, the imperfections need to be addressed by those priorities that are established, established by us, the people's representatives in this House and in the Senate and in the White House, all of us working in a bicameral, bipartisan way to put aside petty partisan differences, to put aside personality warfare, and make certain we go forward with an agenda that is truly all-American, driven, ignited, and lifted by the American Dream.

□ 2015

Our days, Representative GARAMENDI, that lie ahead hold great promise,



great hope. I'm convinced that our best days lie ahead if we allow history and science to instruct us and to reach our hearts, our souls, and our minds as we go forward with the development of a budget that will be sound and reflective of all of America, with every one of her daughters and sons reflected in those decisions.

So I thank you for bringing us together this evening.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. TONKO, thank you very, very much. Indeed, our best days are ahead of us. Even in the dismal days of the Great Depression in the thirties, Franklin Roosevelt laid it out very clearly when he said:

The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much; it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little.

If 95 percent of the wealth that's been generated over the last 5 years winds up with 1 percent, we've got a problem, because the economy isn't going to grow and what will happen is this: hunger in America.

Later this week, we'll take up the nutrition bill for this Nation. There are those who want to remove \$40 billion from the nutrition programs for our children, for our seniors, for those that are unemployed, and for those that are searching for work. We can do better; we really can.

The best days are ahead of us if this Congress and the Senate, together with the President, work together and lay out those plans that have informed us historically that they work.

Investment—investments are those things that make America strong—infrastructure, research, education, those are things that are timeless and work year after year. They're also things that have recently been reduced and cut.

We can't let this happen in America. We cannot allow that to happen.

Mr. Speaker, with that, I yield back the balance of my time.

#### SURVIVAL OF THE COAL INDUSTRY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COLLINS of New York). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JOHNSON) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, it's an honor to be standing before the House this evening to talk about a very, very important issue, an issue that is important not only to my constituents in eastern and southeastern Ohio, but to Americans across the Nation, and the issue is the survival of the coal industry.

Coal has provided America's energy engine for generations, and can for many future generations if we have policies out of this administration that reflect the value that the coal industry has meant to America and the future that it has in front of us.

Coal is an abundant, affordable, and reliable form of energy. Coal directly

or indirectly employs nearly 800,000 Americans and supplies approximately 40 percent of our Nation's power generation. Coal mining employees across my district number in the thousands in eastern and southeastern Ohio. It also provides nearly 80 percent of Ohio's electricity, and it's the energy engine for Ohio's manufacturing industry which so many of my constituents depend on for their livelihood.

I'm very proud to be joined tonight, Mr. Speaker, by some of my colleagues who are equally passionate about the coal industry and its value to America, both in the past and in the future.

At this point, I yield to my friend and colleague from the great State of Kentucky's Sixth District, Representative ANDY BARR.

Mr. BARR. I thank the gentleman, my friend from Ohio, for yielding and for organizing this Special Order on coal.

This fall marks the fifth anniversary of the financial crisis. We remain burdened by a weak economic recovery, with unemployment still lingering above 7 percent, two-thirds of the American people living paycheck to paycheck, and only 58 percent of the working-age population in this country employed. But this does not seem to concern this President or this administration. Unable to wage a war in Syria due to immense public opposition, the President, for some reason, seems intent on conducting a war on jobs.

Whether it's driving up the cost of health care with the disastrous Affordable Care Act or burdening community banks with mountains of bureaucratic red tape from the Dodd-Frank Act, this administration is seemingly intent on doing everything in its power to ensure this recovery remains slow and painful.

The finalization of the New Source Performance Standards rules from the EPA for greenhouse gas emissions this week will represent the latest and perhaps the most damaging barrage in this war on jobs. This regulatory carbon tax is the keystone of a radical environmental agenda, the disastrous results of which are already known in my district of central and eastern Kentucky. The consequences of these regulations have echoed throughout the hills of Appalachia, and they will reverberate across the country in years to come.

The New Source Performance Standards will finish the job that a deadlocked permitting process and multi-billion-dollar regulations like Utility MACT have started: killing the coal industry and driving up the cost of energy, a top-line budget item for families already struggling to get by in this President's economy.

But then, no one should be surprised. This is the one promise the President made and has kept. When running in 2008, President Obama, then Candidate Obama, said his policies would make the cost of electricity "necessarily skyrocket." More recently, White House climate adviser Daniel Schrag

recently admitted this administration's previously only thinly veiled position. Mr. Schrag said, famously now, "a war on coal is exactly what's needed."

Mr. Speaker, I can't think of another example of a Presidential administration pledging to put hardworking Americans in a centuries' old industry totally out of work, apparently for the crime of providing low-cost energy that drives the engine of our economy.

The damage of these policies is already clear in Kentucky. Just yesterday, another 525 coal miners employed at three eastern Kentucky mines operated by the James River Coal Company were given pink slips. My heart goes out to these miners and to their families. And I have met some of these people. They're just trying to follow their ancestors by digging up a piece of the American Dream in the Appalachian foothills.

Last month, the Commonwealth of Kentucky released statistics on the health of the coal industry for the second quarter of this year, and the story they tell is dire, even before yesterday's news of another 525 layoffs. Eastern Kentucky coal mines facing the brunt of this President's regulatory overreach shed another 851 jobs last quarter, leaving the total number of Kentucky employed at the mines at just 12,342. That is the lowest number since Kentucky began keeping such statistics in 1927. Eastern Kentucky coal production is down a whopping 41.4 percent in just the last 2 years. And with those reductions, we have lost over 5,700 mining jobs.

And now the New Source Performance Standards will prohibit coal from even competing in the energy marketplace, even though the final regulations have now been delayed a year due to industry and public opposition, as so often before this administration has brushed those concerns aside and proceeded apace. The EPA even forecasts, given the regulatory environment, that there will be no new coal plants built after this year.

Rather than phasing in rules to allow all types of fuel to adapt, these regulations on new and existing plants single out coal, stifling the promise of carbon capture in its crib, a technology that could have provided the United States with a revolutionary technology on the magnitude of hydraulic fracturing that could have changed the course and shape of our economy, driven exports, and paid real benefits in terms of carbon emissions reductions. Instead, the United States will endure unilateral economic disarmament while our international competitors continue to pursue growth-oriented energy policies.

Over the next few years as these policies take hold, the rest of the country will be made aware of this disaster that is already taking place in Appalachia. Already, one-fifth of the Nation's coal-fired plants—204 plants across 25 States—closed between 2009 and 2012. The rest will shutter prematurely in

the years following implementation of the New Source Performance Standards.

Seven EPA regulations already proposed over the last 4 years are forecast to cost \$16.7 billion annually once fully implemented. The New Source Performance Standards will trump even that figure, constituting the largest energy tax of all time implemented by regulatory fiat without the consent of the people's elected representatives in Congress. That's because this President's own party couldn't enact this radical environmental agenda through cap-and-trade in the first 2 years of this President's administration.

The loss of 69,000 megawatts of coal-fired power will ripple through the economy, costing an estimated 887,000 jobs in the mining, utility, shipping, and manufacturing sectors per year. The President had pledged to spur growth in manufacturing, and low energy costs at home coupled with rising wages in countries like China and India promised to restore our competitive advantage in manufacturing. But the New Source Performance Standards will quickly put an end to those prospects.

Mr. Speaker, the United States has 250 years' worth of coal reserves at current consumption rates that could, if utilized, provide affordable energy and high-tech manufacturing feedstocks. But the President isn't interested in playing this ace up America's sleeve. Instead, he wants to stay the course on a disastrous energy rationing policy that has already put thousands in the unemployment lines in my neck of the woods in Kentucky and all throughout central Appalachia and will put hundreds of thousands of more hard-working Americans there in the years to come.

So I urge the President to abandon these disastrous, job-killing policies and to come to Congress to work on a plan that will relieve energy costs for our families. Put the American people back to work and protect the environment. Otherwise, this week's announcement of these New Source Performance Standards will demonstrate a willful denial of these ambitions and a ruthless attack on a centuries-old industry that has provided jobs and economic opportunity for thousands of Americans.

I want to end my comments this evening by telling a story that illustrates the human cost and the human dimension of this administration's war on coal.

In the eastern edge of my district sits a small town of Campton, Kentucky, in Wolfe County, Kentucky. When I was home during the August recess, I went there and had a town hall meeting to listen to the concerns of people who are struggling.

□ 2030

I met a young woman by the name of Sally. She came up to me after a town hall meeting with tears welling up in

her eyes. She looked at me and she said, my husband just lost his job in the coal mines—he's a coal miner. He lost his job because the Environmental Protection Agency would not issue a coal mining permit to his employer. As a result, they had to lay off all of the coal miners, including my husband—is what this woman told me.

She said, Here's the problem: My children need to go back to school. It's August, and it's time to go back to school. They're growing up, and they don't have shoes, they've grown out of their shoes. And so I don't know what to do because we can't afford shoes. So I went ahead and bought them flip-flops so they wouldn't be embarrassed to go back to school.

Imagine that, politicians and bureaucrats in Washington, D.C., putting this working family in central Appalachia in that kind of economic distress so that they can't even afford shoes for their children. I don't care if you're a Republican or a Democrat, a supporter of this administration or not, it is fundamentally wrong, it is fundamentally immoral for the Federal Government to put working American families into economic distress.

So I call on my colleagues in Congress to stand firm and stand in opposition to this radical agenda, which is destroying jobs, destroying opportunity, and destroying the American Dream.

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. I thank our colleague.

I think you can see, Mr. Speaker, the passion that's coming to Washington to advocate on the part of the coal industry. We're not just talking about a black rock that's dug out of the ground; we're talking about lives. We're talking about American lives. We're talking about jobs and the ability to put food on the table, to put clothes on our children, to provide a manufacturing base so that Americans have somewhere to work and to do what America knows how to do best—innovate and compete and solve problems.

I'm proud now to yield to another one of our colleagues, Representative KEVIN CRAMER, from the great State of North Dakota.

Mr. CRAMER. I thank my colleague and friend from Ohio for leading this important discussion on this very important and somewhat scary week.

Mr. Speaker, I love the opportunity to tell the story of North Dakota. You know, a lot of people think of North Dakota these days as just an oil-producing State out there somewhere in the Wild West. While we're the second-leading producer of oil—and we're rather proud of how well we do it—long before that, even long before North Dakota was one of the 10 top producers of wind energy, long before that North Dakota was producing electricity by burning coal. In fact, for decades, North Dakota has been generating electricity burning coal. In fact, at the current burn rate, there's an 800-year supply of lignite coal under our prairies.

Prior to being elected to this great institution of the people's House, I was a public service commissioner for 10 years and carried the portfolio of coal mining in our State. I got to oversee the data collection, the pre-mine permitting, the permitting of the mine, the inspections of the mines, the releasing of the bond at the end of the life of the mine.

North Dakota companies mine over 30 million tons of coal every year, Mr. Speaker, generating about 5,000 megawatts of electricity. Currently, we have about 120,000 acres under permit for coal mining in our State. It's very important to North Dakota, as it is to the rest of our Nation.

The lignite industry in North Dakota, a State with fewer than 700,000 citizens, employs more than 28,000 of those 700,000 people. It has an annual economic impact in our little State of \$3 billion and generates over \$100 million of tax revenue to help fund the priorities of our State.

To provide some perspective, Mr. Speaker, on the wage impact of the industry on North Dakota, two counties—Mercer and Oliver Counties—are home to three coal mines and five generating plants. They are the two counties with the highest wages of any county in our State, and we have a State with very high wages. But those direct economic benefits are just a small part of our story. Because, you see, 79 percent of North Dakota's lignite is used to generate electricity for over 2 million citizens in the upper Midwest; 13.5 percent is used to generate synthetic natural gas that is piped to over 400,000 homes in the East.

Every time I have this opportunity to address the House, I like to tell a little piece of the story. You see, 7.5 percent of that coal is used to generate fertilizer for our number one industry, agriculture. It's a great part of our culture. It's what I believe makes us very good at coal mining, it's those agricultural roots.

Let's talk about electricity generation for a moment that's under such attack today. No industry in America is more under attack today than this by this administration.

We're home to seven plants, as I said, owned by rural electric cooperatives and investor-owned utilities that provide low-cost electricity to our region. Beyond the direct employment of the high-paying jobs in this industry by the coal mines and the generation plants, the transmission companies and the utilities that distribute the electricity, our low-cost coal provides the region with some of the cheapest utility rates in the country. In fact, just today I printed out the most recent Electric Power Monthly Report of Average Retail Price of Electricity by State year to date, and North Dakota and the State of Washington have the lowest retail prices of any State in the country. Can you imagine what a tremendous advantage that is in the global marketplace when you're trying to

attract other industries, as my colleague from Kentucky talked about, the opportunity for manufacturing and other industries?

Now, we're also home to the Great Plains Synfuels Plant, which takes our coal and turns it into gas. It is used by homes and industry. In the process of gasifying that coal, 50 percent of it is captured—the carbon is captured—and it's shipped via pipeline to Saskatchewan for tertiary oil recovery. So we capture half of the carbon and then inject it into old oil wells and generate more oil from it.

Long before carbon capture and sequestration was cool, North Dakota innovators saw it as a commercially viable byproduct of energy development. Now all of that is going to get squashed by these rules that we're hearing about this week.

Another innovation of our coal is that we use the ash from the plants, a byproduct of the power plants. Instead of it being emitted out of the stacks, it's collected. And other entrepreneurial-minded individuals have discovered productive ways to utilize the coal ash instead of sending it to landfills. It creates a stronger, longer lasting, and easier to work with concrete that's used in our Nation's infrastructure—something that we need very badly these days. It's used in paint, insulation for stoves and refrigerators, ceiling and flooring tiles, lumber, bricks and masonry, shingles and roofing materials. This is a byproduct, not a waste product, and it's certainly safe.

It is used to make better bridges, like the new I-35 Bridge in Minneapolis; better footings for wind towers. The many, many wind towers in North Dakota are actually attached to coal ash concrete. And their ability to sell this byproduct allows our utilities to keep electricity rates low for everyone.

But you might ask: What of the environment? After all, it's the air, land and water that concerns the magnitude of rules and regulations that are coming at our industries with such zeal out of this administration. I love talking about our environment in North Dakota. I submit to you, Mr. Speaker, and to our colleagues, that very few places on Earth are cleaner and greener than the State of North Dakota.

With regard to our air, you might assume that a State with seven power plants would have dirty air; but no, we are one of very few States that meet all Ambient Air Quality Standards as prescribed by the EPA. We're very proud of that. By the way, remember those two counties, Mercer and Oliver, with the five power plants and the three coal mines? Once again, this year they received an A grade from the American Lung Association for their clean air in their annual report for 2012.

But perhaps the area I'm most proud of is the reclamation of our mine lands. Before the Federal Government passed the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act, the State of North Da-

kota passed its own reclamation laws which were stricter, higher standards. We return our land to pre-mining use. I wish every Member of Congress could come to North Dakota. I wish our President could come to North Dakota and see how good America could be, and see how we reclaim our land, because we love our land. We're farmers and ranchers. Our mines take great pride in and invest vast resources in protecting our environment—their environment. Our companies have won many awards for stewardship.

You see, coal miners and utility company employees not only enjoy high-paying jobs, but they live there, they breathe the air, they drink the water, they farm the land. They're not just farmers and engineers; they're accountants, machinery operators, environmental scientists, rangeland biologists, truck drivers. The care of our natural resources is more important to us than it is to the EPA, quite honestly. And we do it quite well. We're a place made up of people who have proven for centuries you don't have to compromise quality of life for a high standard of living.

We are an all-of-the-above State, and I'm very, very proud of it. And I'm proud to be here with you, my colleague from Ohio (Mr. JOHNSON), to tell the story one more time about the importance of this industry. And if a war on coal is what's being waged, then we'd better be armed for the war because it's worth fighting for. It's for our future.

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. I thank the gentleman.

And the point that you just made and that our colleague from Kentucky made—it's not simply a war on coal, it's a war on American jobs. It's a war on the American way of life. We have to stand.

Mr. Speaker, I'm proud now to yield to another one of our colleagues who—no one in the House knows more about the impacts of the coal industry to the economy of her State and her region than does our colleague from West Virginia, Representative SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO.

Mrs. CAPITO. I thank the gentleman from Ohio for having this Special Order to talk about coal, to talk about energy, to talk about jobs, to talk about quality of life in our States—North Dakota, Kentucky, Ohio, West Virginia. West Virginia is the second largest coal-producing State in the country, and it is part of who we are—and has been for many, many years.

Living in West Virginia and being home as we were in August, there's a lot of pessimism in the entire State. It's not just about coal—if you're a coal miner or directly involved—it's the whole community, it's the whole area, it's the whole region. There's a feeling that the President, through his policies, has really picked winners and losers in this country, and our region is going to lose.

The job issue, we're seeing hundreds of jobs—we just had a mine close last

week, or a week before, 250 miners. But then that's the transportation, the truck driver, the Stop-and-Go owner, the oil and gas market, the electrician, the pipes, all the things, equipment manufacturers. Everything. It's not just about those 250 jobs, it's a multiplying effect in our region of West Virginia.

The abundance of coal in West Virginia nationwide gives us real potential. We get criticized: Oh, you're fighting an old fight; that fight is no longer part of the future. We've got to make it a part of the future because it makes good sense. Producing more domestic energy means reliable, it means an affordable supply of power and energy.

I think about a State like mine that has a lot of folks who are living on fixed incomes, a lot of older folks. When it comes to the end of the month and they see their electric bill, they're having trouble now meeting that challenge of paying for that, making choices of medicine or food,—food for their pets or whatever is important to them—because of the high cost now. That's just going to go up and up and up if we disenfranchise ourselves in this country, our most abundant resource, and that being coal.

Let's talk about the tax revenues that are lost to all the counties, the school systems in our State. If you don't have the tax revenues in our State that coal produces and energy produces, whether it's natural gas in our States too, we're blessed with that. But if we don't have the tax revenues there, this just wounds county commissioners, wounds county boards of education.

□ 2045

That to me is not one of the unintended, but one of the consequences that never gets talked about that really will harm a way of life, a future for the children. So let's talk about the potential.

We have been exporting a lot of coal. By doing that, we create jobs because we're exporting our coal. I see nothing wrong with exporting coal to our allies because exporting energy means we're producing the resource.

Earlier this year, Bloomberg News reported that Germany will start up more coal-fired power stations this year than at any time in the past 20 years. When we think about Germany, we think about somebody who's environmentally conscious. They have a very healthy Green Party over there. They're considered to be very cutting edge when it comes to conservation and clean energy, yet they're building more coal-fired power plants in their country than they have over the last 25 years.

During the first campaign, the President said that if you build a coal-fired power plant, we will bankrupt you. We've all seen the tape. On Friday, that's what his statement is going to be from the EPA. It will be impossible

to build a new coal-fired power plant or it will bankrupt you if you try to do it.

One of his major advisers has said that a war on coal is exactly what this country needs. How can you say a war on an industry that employs thousands of people in the heartland of our country and thousands more in ancillary businesses, and it's a way of life? It's domestic energy. The administration supports this attack on hardworking people in an industry that provides good jobs and affordable energy. It's affordable energy, not just for our folks on fixed incomes, but for our manufacturers, our small businesses. A cheaper, affordable energy is going to create jobs in other industries, as well, and it has.

You don't have to look too far to see the administration's attack on coal. We know about the EPA's unprecedented action of retroactively pulling a validly issued clean water permit. That was shocking on the face of it. They said, Oh, we've done that before. Well, when you look at it, maybe once, maybe a long time ago, but this was a 10-year process, millions of dollars to get this permit that was yanked out from under this company. Who's going to invest in an industry when you're in danger of losing a permit retroactively after you've jumped through all the hoops, met all the standards, worked with the Corps, done all the things you're supposed to do, and still this administration will come back and take your permit back?

The administration has attacked the use of coal. Recent figures say that 295 coal units across 33 States are closing. They're closing in our States, and we can already see it. It's a source of great concern.

In 2012, the EPA proposed a New Source Performance Standard. They kind of backed off from it, but they placed coal plants and large natural gas plants under the same standard for carbon dioxide emissions, 1,000 pounds per megawatt hour. What we heard from earlier reports is they're going to create two standards, but the standard for coal is going to be unmeetable because the carbon capture and sequestration technology is not there. This is where I think, if we look to the future, where the real future lies for our abundant resource, coal.

But earlier this year they scrapped the 2012 proposal, and the President instructed revised standards. Basically what we're going to see on Friday is the same thing. It's like Groundhog Day: same thing, same rhetoric, same standards, same results. Lost jobs, higher utility costs, seniors and others on fixed incomes worried about how they're going to heat their homes or cool them in the hot summers. All of these things are very daunting in my State of West Virginia.

The truth is that without new performance standards, carbon dioxide emission generation in the United States is falling.

Let's talk about the rest of the world. At the same time, global emis-

sions have increased by 1.4 percent. So if the administration wants to impose carbon dioxide standards, regulations that will harm the American economy, then at a minimum, it should act as part of an agreement with other countries. The Senate unanimously took that position in 1997 when it passed a resolution sponsored by then-Senator Robert C. Byrd from West Virginia and current Obama Secretary Chuck Hagel which said that the United States should not ratify the Kyoto treaty unless specific standards were agreed upon to limit emissions by developing countries.

The Byrd-Hagel principle was common sense in 1997, and it remains so today. For that reason, I will be introducing legislation that would delay the implementation of the new source rules for coal plants unless other countries, that account for 80 percent of the total non-USA carbon dioxide emission standards, enact those standards so that we are not disadvantaging our workers, our jobs, our economy, our seniors, our folks who have manufacturing jobs in small businesses.

The American people want us to work together. They really do. We hear that when we're out. It's Republicans, Democrats, Independents, nonparties, old, young, educated, less educated, blue collar, white collar. They want us to work together. They want common-sense policies. They want an energy policy that creates jobs, that includes everything, that is an all-of-the-above energy plan. That's what we want, and that's what we're fighting for. The President stood up here in January and said he was for all-of-the-above energy. On Friday, he's going to say all of the above except coal, which is abundant in the heartland of America.

I urge my colleagues on the floor tonight to think about coal as I know some States do not realize what their portfolio is in coal. So I looked up Florida. Twenty-two percent of the power generation in Florida is coal, yet you hear many of the Florida delegation right on board with the climate change philosophy of this President. Their renewable portfolio in the Sunshine State is slightly over 2 percent. The renewable portfolio in the State of West Virginia, who has some of the most abundant resources in the country, is at least twice that. It goes back to actually do what you say and say what you do.

So I think that we need to work with our colleagues and educate our colleagues about what a great role coal plays across this country. Even if you don't mine it in your region, you're using it, you're powering it. Your seniors in Florida are using it to cool themselves down on a hot summer day.

With that, I would say I look forward with dread on Friday to see what the new EPA Administrator has come forward with because I feel that it's going to pick winners and losers in this country and that our region, and really our own domestic energy supply and in

some ways our domestic energy security, is going to be disadvantaged. That, to me, in a time of high unemployment, in a time of more part-time jobs being created than full-time, we're going to turn our back on an industry that looks to the future to do it better, to do it cleaner, to do it more efficiently, to do it with higher technology, to do it with better research, to do it with education, to employ the next generation in an industry that has been part of the backbone of this country and certainly of our region.

I thank the gentleman for having me.

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. I thank the gentlewoman, and certainly we can see the passion that she brings to the table.

I think one of the things that is important for the American people to understand is this notion of energy independence and security. We hear those terms a lot, but not everybody understands what those terms really mean and how it affects them, their families, their future.

I think there are some lessons that can be learned about America's past that would help us understand how energy independence and security might affect our future, and I'd like to spend a little bit of time talking about that. To do so, I want to set the stage just a little bit by taking us back to March of 2011 when right here in this Chamber the Prime Minister of Australia addressed a joint session of Congress. She came to this Chamber and she started her speech off by saying:

You know, I remember being a young girl sitting on my living room floor watching Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin land on the Moon, thinking to myself, "Wow, those Americans can do anything."

She went on to talk about America's and Australia's engagement in world issues, how America stood alongside of and often in front of Australia during World War II. At the end of her speech, she summarized by saying:

I'm not that young girl anymore. Today I'm the Prime Minister of our country, and yet still today I believe that Americans can do anything.

When she said that phrase the second time, this notion that Americans can do anything, you could have almost heard a pin drop in this Chamber. There was a hush as Members from the Senate, from the President's Cabinet, dignitaries, military leaders, Members of the House sort of took a collective cleansing breath, sucking that air in, that notion that Americans can do anything. It's not like we don't believe it. It's certainly not that we haven't proven it. But we don't hear it these days. We're certainly not teaching it to future generations the way we once did.

You see, when President Kennedy launched us on that great vision to put a man on the Moon in 10 years, he engaged every fabric of our society—our scientific community, our technological community, our academic community, our military, our economic

will, our political will. And he said before the American people, We're not doing these things because they're easy. In fact, we're doing these things because they're hard and because by doing these things we're going to invent and innovate and discover things that we might not have discovered otherwise.

I'm paraphrasing what President Kennedy said, but that was the message that he delivered to the American people. He did such a good job of rallying the American people around this vision of American exceptionalism on that day that we didn't make it to the Moon in 10 years; we actually made it in 8 years. We saw one of the most expansive and innovative periods in American history unfold right before our very eyes, and we still see the benefits of that era today: the cell phones that we carry around, the flat-screen TVs that we watch, the computers that we use, the GPS systems that navigate us from place to place, medical technology, communicating technologies. So much innovation came out of that period of time.

We have an opportunity in America to harness that great American character of innovation just like President Kennedy did around an idea of energy independence and security. As my colleague from West Virginia just pointed out, the President stood in this Chamber and said that back in January. He advocated, in his words, for an all-of-the-above energy policy, one that includes all forms of energy, yet his policies continue to do the opposite, particularly where the coal industry is concerned.

What if we had a national energy policy that went something like this? Starting today, America is setting a goal to become energy independent and secure in America by the year 2020.

□ 2100

And we are going to harvest the vast oil and gas resources that we have? Experts say we have more of that resource now than any nation on the planet. We are going to expand our nuclear footprint. It is the cleanest form of energy on the planet. We're going to invest in and advocate for alternative forms of energy like wind and solar, biofuels and hydro, but we are going to let the market drive those innovations. And yes, we are going to continue to mine and use the vast coal resources we have because we have got enough coal in this country to fuel our energy needs for generations. It's the most affordable, most reliable form of energy that we know.

But we're not going to stop there. We're going to have a regulatory process that requires that regulatory agencies, like the EPA, become partners in progress with America's industries and businesses, rather than just throwing up barriers and saying "no." If there's a reason to say no for public health or public safety reasons, then say no, but don't let no be the final answer. The

American people have an expectation that their tax dollars are going to be used to move America forward, not to put on the brakes, kill jobs, ruin families, and make America less competitive in future generations.

I believe if we had that kind of energy vision we would once again see America's innovative wheels begin to turn. We would see young people lining up to get into technical programs and college programs to prepare them for careers in energy development, domestic energy development. We would see millions of jobs created. We would see industries crop up, and we would see a resurgence in manufacturing. We would see America go back to work.

And it would put in play the American Dream once again for millions of Americans, millions of middle class Americans, that have begun to think that perhaps the American Dream doesn't apply to them anymore. The American Dream is still alive and well in our country, and all we have to do, all we have to do is plug in to the type of American exceptionalism that put us on the Moon, and go after a real energy independence and security policy that harvests our coal, uses the natural resources that we have, and puts Americans back in charge of their own destiny.

I want to go into a little detail here on some of the comments that my colleagues from West Virginia, Kentucky, and North Dakota made just a few minutes ago. We know that coal-fired power plants like the Cardinal, Ohio, and Sammis plants, both of which are in my district, can be built with scrubbers in place so that coal can be used in a very environmentally safe way.

The President and his administration have started this war on coal that focuses on both the mining of coal and the use of coal in power plants. This week the EPA is expected to issue a rule on new power plants that will almost certainly ensure that under existing technology no new coal-fired power plant will be built in America. The new rule will require a technology called carbon sequestration and storage, and it's not commercially available nor commercially viable. My friend from West Virginia, DAVID MCKINLEY, has legislation that says that the EPA can't issue a rule that requires technology that isn't commercially viable. I hope we will consider that legislation in the House for two reasons. I think the American people have an expectation that people that make regulations that affect the economy, that affect the jobs, that affect the livelihood of Americans all over this country, that those rules are based on scientific fact and that they are technologically viable. That's not what we're seeing out of the EPA today.

And number two, I think it is absolutely irresponsible for the Federal Government to ban, essentially ban a form of energy that has fueled America's energy needs for generations and can for future generations. Remember

what I said earlier: 800,000 jobs are produced either directly or indirectly across our country by the coal industry.

Before long, grid reliability will be in question, and rolling blackouts will be the norm again if we don't have coal power as part of our energy mix. I come from a background in information technology, and I can tell you that much of our technology is designed to operate on stable, reliable power, and blackouts and brownouts and dips in our power grid will put great stress on our technological resources. Don't take my word for it, ask the experts. Not to mention that energy costs are going to rise. People will lose their jobs and hardworking families will be forced to pay higher utility rates.

Sadly, this new rule on power plants is just the beginning. Next year, the EPA is expected to release a new rule regulating existing coal-fired power plants. Now if that rule is anything like the rule coming out this week, coal-fired power plants could go extinct in just a few years. We're already seeing the effects of the EPA's crusade against coal. In my district alone, one coal-fired power plant has already closed, leaving over 100 people without jobs. Furthermore, there are six other coal-fired power plants in my district, and if the EPA issues that unworkable rule next year, thousands in my district could be without jobs.

Now, if the President's war on coal simply stopped here, the coal industry and the people employed either directly or indirectly by the coal industry might be okay. However, the EPA rules are just the tip of the iceberg because the rest of the administration is also actively trying to shut down coal producers with a series of new rules. First, at the Department of the Interior, the administration has been trying to rewrite the 2008 stream buffer zone rule for nearly 5 years now. This rewriting of the rule has been a disaster from the beginning as the administration has wasted nearly \$10 million and 5 years of our time on this environmentalists' dream. It might be a dream of theirs, but it is going to be a nightmare for the coal industry and the families across this country that are dependent upon it. We know that the preferred rule by the administration would cost thousands of jobs because the consultants they hired to do the analysis told us so, and it will lead to coal production being cut by nearly half in America. And yet, the administration appears unfazed and continues its effort to rewrite the rule.

That's why last year I introduced the Stop the War on Coal Act that would have stopped not only the rewrite of the stream buffer zone rule but also the EPA's misguided attempts to regulate coal-fired power plants. My colleague from Colorado, DOUG LAMBORN, and I, have reintroduced similar legislation this year, and I hope that the House will once again pass it and send a strong signal to the President to stop this rewrite.

Next, let's look at the Department of Labor. The President's Department of Labor is actively writing a rule dealing with coal dust that could potentially shut down totally underground mining. The rule is so unworkable and unreasonable that it has even been said that coal miners wearing full oxygen masks and tanks would not be in compliance with the rule. Think about that. Coal miners that would be breathing in pure oxygen would still be in violation of this new rule. And I'm not sure how a coal company can continue with a rule like that, and that's why we've been fighting against the implementation of this rule, called the coal dust rule, as well.

We and the American people should not be surprised by the President's actions nor the actions of his administration against the coal industry since he came into office. As our colleague from West Virginia pointed out, he told us back before he was first elected that his anti-coal policies would cause electricity prices to skyrocket and that it would bankrupt a utility company if it wanted to build a new coal-fired power plant in America. It might have taken him almost 5 years to deliver on those promises, but we're about to see him issue rules that will cause energy prices to skyrocket, make it impossible to build a coal-fired power plant, and kill thousands of jobs across the country.

However, as we have seen tonight, there is a strong will here in the House of Representatives to stand up and fight back against the President's policies. So here's the message: we will not roll over because the future of our economy and the livelihoods of our constituents, our children and grandchildren are on the line. We will continue to fight through the appropriations process. We will continue to work hard to educate the public on these destructive policies until the President backs down.

I want to share one final story before I yield back. I wasn't born into the coal production industry. I didn't grow up knowing a lot about coal production, but I sure learned a lot about coal consumption. I spoke to the Ohio association of rural electric co-ops about a month ago and I shared with them that as a small boy, I was the utilities manager at a rural utility co-op. Now they looked at me like some of you are looking at me. They cocked their head kind of sideways and said, how can a young boy be the director of a utility co-op?

You see, on that rural farm where we worked, we had no indoor plumbing, and my grandmother heated and cooked on a big, black, round potbellied stove. My job as a young boy before I went to bed each night was to make sure that the coal bucket was full on the back porch so when my granddad got up at 4:30 in the morning to fire up that stove so grandmother could get up and start breakfast, it was there. It was also my job to bring in a

cistern of water from the outside pump so she didn't have to go outside and get it.

So in a very real sense, I was the utilities manager for that farm. I provided the fuel and ensured that the fuel was there to heat and cook, and provided the water.

Folks, that's the character that America was built on. That's what hardworking people along Appalachia, Ohio remember. They dreamed of a future for their children and their grandchildren because they lived that kind of character. They still live it today.

I want to thank my colleagues for coming tonight and joining me in this effort to stop the administration's war on the coal industry.

Mr. Speaker, with that, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair would remind Members to direct their remarks to the Chair.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 15 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, September 18, 2013, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

2965. A letter from the Secretary, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Harmonization of Compliance Obligations for Registered Investment Companies Required to Register as Commodity Pool Operators (RIN: 3038-AD75) received September 3, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2966. A letter from the Secretary, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Clearing Exemption for Certain Swaps Entered into by Cooperatives (RIN: 3038-AD47) received September 3, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2967. A letter from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, transmitting notification of the President's intent to exempt all military personnel accounts for FY 2014; to the Committee on Appropriations.

2968. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Curtis M. Scaparrotti, United States Army, to wear the insignia of the grade of general; to the Committee on Armed Services.

2969. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Susan S. Lawrence, United States Army, and her advancement on the retired list in the grade of lieutenant general; to the Committee on Armed Services.

2970. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of General James D. Thurman, United States

Army, and his advancement on the retired list in the grade of general; to the Committee on Armed Services.

2971. A letter from the Chief Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Changes in Final Flood Elevation Determinations (Connecticut: Hartford) [Docket ID: FEMA-2013-0002] received September 3, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

2972. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's Annual Report entitled, "Delays in Approvals of Applications Related to Citizen Petitions and Petitions for Stay of Agency Action for Fiscal Year 2012"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2973. A letter from the Assistant Secretary For Export Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Addition and Revision to the List of Validated End-Users in the People's Republic of China [Docket No.: 130826763-3763-01] (RIN: 0694-AF95) received September 3, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2974. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Memorandum of justification for the 2013 certification regarding U.S. Assistance to the Government of Colombia's Air Bridge Denial Program; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2975. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report pursuant to Section 804 of the PLO Commitments Compliance Act of 1989 (title VIII, Foreign Relations Authorization Act, FY 1990 and 1991 (Pub. L. 101-246)), and Sections 603-604 (Middle East Peace Commitments Act of 2002) and 699 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, FY 2003 (Pub. L. 107-228), the functions of which have been delegated to the Department of State; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2976. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's report on progress toward a negotiated solution of the Cyprus question covering the period April 1, 2013 through May 31, 2013; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2977. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting U.S. support for Taiwan's participation as an observer at the 2013 International Civil Aviation Organization; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2978. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting as required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the persons undermining democratic processes or institutions in Zimbabwe that was declared in Executive Order 13288 of March 6, 2003; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2979. A letter from the Chief, Branch of Endangered Species Listing, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Designation of Critical Habitat for the Diamond Darter (*Crystallaria cincotta*) [Docket No.: FWS-R5-ES-2013-0019] (RIN: 1018-AZ40) received September 9, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2980. A letter from the Chief, Branch of Endangered Species Listing, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened



Wildlife and Plants; Determination of Endangered Species Status for Jemez Mountains Salamander (*Plethodon neomexicanus*) Throughout Its Range [Docket No.: FWS-R2-ES-2012-0063; 4500030113] (RIN: 1018-AY24) received September 9, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2981. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Snapper-Grouper Fishery off the Southern Atlantic States; Amendment 28 [Docket No.: 121004515-3608-02] (RIN: 0648-BC63) received September 3, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2982. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act Provisions; Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Surflam and Ocean Quahog Fishery [Docket No.: 120604138-3684-03] (RIN: 0648-BC21) received September 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2983. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Tilefish Fishery Management Plan; Regulatory Amendment, Corrections, and Clarifications [Docket No.: 120416018-3679-02] (RIN: 0648-BC05) received September 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2984. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries Off West Coast States; Coastal Pelagic Species Fisheries; Closure [Docket No.: 121210694-3514-02] (RIN: 0648-XC783) received September 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2985. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Snapper-Grouper Fishery off the South Atlantic States; Amendment 22; Correction (RIN: 0648-BA53) received September 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2986. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Thornyhead Rockfish in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 120918468-3111-02] (RIN: 0648-XC818) received September 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2987. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; Management Act Provisions; Fisheries Off West Coast States; Biennial Specifications and Management Measures; Inseason Adjustments [Docket No.: 120814338-2711-02] (RIN: 0648-BD47) received September 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2988. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oce-

anic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — List of Fisheries for 2013 [Docket No.: 121024581-3714-02] (RIN: 0648-BC71) received September 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2989. A letter from the Director, Administrative Office of the United States Courts, transmitting the 2012 annual report concerning intercepted wire, oral, or electronic communications; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2990. A letter from the Controller, Daughters of the American Revolution, transmitting the Audited Financial Statements of NSDAR for the Fiscal Year ended December 31, 2012 (short fiscal year), pursuant to 36 U.S.C. 1101(20) and 1103; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2991. A letter from the Administrator, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Federal Aviation Administration's Capital Investment Plan (CIP) for fiscal years 2014-2018, pursuant to 49 U.S.C. app. 2203(b)(1); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2992. A letter from the Assistant Secretary of the Army, Civil Works, Department of Defense, transmitting the Corp's report on the Corpus Christi Ship Channel Deepening and Barge Shelves; (H. Doc. No. 113—61); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and ordered to be printed.

2993. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Debt That is a Position in Personal Property That is Part of a Straddle [TD 9635] (RIN: 1546-BK89) received September 5, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2994. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Medicare Ombudsman report to Congress for the year 2012; jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. ROYCE: Committee on Foreign Affairs. H.R. 2449. A bill to authorize the President to extend the term of the Agreement for Cooperation between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Korea Concerning Civil Uses of Nuclear Energy for a period not to exceed March 19, 2016 (Rept. 113-209). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 1410. A bill to prohibit gaming activities on certain Indian lands in Arizona until the expiration of certain gaming compacts (Rept. 113-210). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. MILLER of Florida: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H.R. 2011. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for a two-year extension of the Veterans' Advisory Committee on Education (Rept. 113-211). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. MILLER of Florida: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H.R. 813. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for advance appropriations for certain discretionary accounts of the Department of Veterans Affairs; with amendments (Rept. 113-

212). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 1526. A bill to restore employment and educational opportunities in, and improve the economic stability of, counties containing National Forest System land, while also reducing Forest Service management costs, by ensuring that such counties have a dependable source of revenue from National Forest System land, to provide a temporary extension of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 113-213 Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 347. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 761) to require the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to more efficiently develop domestic sources of the minerals and mineral materials of strategic and critical importance to United States economic and national security and manufacturing competitiveness (Rept. 113-214). Referred to the House Calendar.

#### PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. CRAWFORD:

H.R. 3105. A bill to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to exempt from such Act animals accidentally included in shipments of aquatic species produced in commercial aquaculture, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana (for herself, Mr. MESSER, Mr. STUTZMAN, and Mr. ROKITA):

H.R. 3106. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of the Army to reconsider decisions to inter or honor the memory of a person in a national cemetery, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. CLARKE:

H.R. 3107. A bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish cybersecurity occupation classifications, assess the cybersecurity workforce, develop a strategy to address identified gaps in the cybersecurity workforce, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. CONYERS (for himself and Ms. LEE of California):

H.R. 3108. A bill to amend the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 to extend the period during which supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits are temporarily increased; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:

H.R. 3109. A bill to amend the Migratory Bird Treaty Act to exempt certain Alaskan Native articles from prohibitions against sale of items containing nonedible migratory bird parts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:

H.R. 3110. A bill to allow for the harvest of gull eggs by the Huna Tlingit people within Glacier Bay National Park in the State of Alaska; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. CARTER (for himself, Mr. WILLIAMS, Mr. WOLF, Mr. ROONEY, Mr.

MCCAUL, Mr. THORNBERRY, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. BARTON, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Mr. MESSER, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. PITTS, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. RIBBLE, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. NUNES, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. GUTIÉRREZ, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. BENTIVOLIO, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. HALL, Mrs. NOEM, Mr. YODER, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. FINCHER, Mrs. BLACK, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. YOHO, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. COOK, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. POSEY, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. COLE, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. TIPTON, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mr. BARLETTA, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. OLSON, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. WOODALL, Mr. WOMACK, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. COLLINS of New York, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. PITTENGER, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. PETRI, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. GARRETT, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. HARPER, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. DESANTIS, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. STUTZMAN, Mr. HURT, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. HINOJOSA, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. FLORES, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Mr. STOCKMAN, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. VELA, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Mrs. LUMMIS, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. MULVANEY, Ms. JENKINS, Mr. NUNNELEE, Mr. DUFFY, and Mr. BARR):

H.R. 3111. A bill to declare the November 5, 2009, attack at Fort Hood, Texas, a terrorist attack, and to ensure that the victims of the attack and their families receive the same honors and benefits as those Americans who have been killed or wounded in a combat zone overseas and their families; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania (for himself and Mr. THOMPSON of California):

H.R. 3112. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to modify the designation of accreditation organizations for orthotics and prosthetics, to apply accreditation and licensure requirements to suppliers of such devices and items for purposes of payment under the Medicare program, and to modify the payment rules for such devices and items under such program to account for practitioner qualifications and complexity of care, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined

by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. PASCRELL (for himself and Mr. ROONEY):

H.R. 3113. A bill to amend title III of the Public Health Service Act to provide for the establishment and implementation of guidelines on best practices for diagnosis, treatment, and management of mild traumatic brain injuries (MTBIs) in school-aged children, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BARBER:

H.R. 3114. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the increase in the income threshold used in determining the deduction for medical care; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. KUSTER:

H.R. 3115. A bill to amend the Small Business Jobs Act of 2010 to extend and expand the State Trade and Export Promotion (STEP) Grant Program; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. LANCE (for himself, Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. PAULSEN, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. RUNYAN, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. WALDEN, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. LOEBACK, Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. JONES, and Mr. LONG):

H.R. 3116. A bill to promote the development of meaningful treatments for patients; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. LEE of California:

H.R. 3117. A bill to bring an end to the spread of HIV/AIDS in the United States and around the world; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California (for herself, Mr. HOLT, Mr. HONDA, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. NADLER, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. GRAYSON, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. ELLISON, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. TONKO, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. COHEN, Mr. LOWENTHAL, and Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas):

H.R. 3118. A bill to improve the retirement security of American families by strengthening Social Security; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GARRETT (for himself, Mr. BARTON, and Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas):

H. Con. Res. 55. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that Taiwan and its 23,000,000 people deserve membership in the United Nations; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. NEUGEBAUER (for himself, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Mr. RUNYAN, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. RUSH, Mr. MCIN-

TYRE, Mr. MORAN, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. DELBENE, and Mr. CONNOLLY):

H. Res. 348. A resolution expressing support for designation of September 2013 as "National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

## CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. CRAWFORD:

H.R. 3105.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the enumerated powers listed in Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana:

H.R. 3106.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Ms. CLARKE:

H.R. 3107.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill, The Homeland Security Cybersecurity Boots-on-the-Ground Act, is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

By Mr. CONYERS:

H.R. 3108.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:

H.R. 3109.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:

H.R. 3110.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. CARTER:

H.R. 3111.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution clause 14, which grants Congress the power to make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces.

By Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 3112.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3; and including, but not solely limited to Article I, Section 8, Clause 14.

By Mr. PASCRELL:

H.R. 3113.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. BARBER:

H.R. 3114.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

By Ms. KUSTER:

H.R. 3115.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 (relating to the power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States), and Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 (relating to the power to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes) of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. LANCE:

H.R. 3116.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

By Ms. LEE of California:

H.R. 3117.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

By Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California:

H.R. 3118.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

#### ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 75: Mr. ROGERS of Alabama.  
 H.R. 183: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. BACHUS, and Mr. CÁRDENAS.  
 H.R. 184: Ms. ESTY.  
 H.R. 274: Mr. ENYART and Mr. LOWENTHAL.  
 H.R. 301: Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. LATHAM, and Mr. RAHALL.  
 H.R. 318: Mr. CUMMINGS.  
 H.R. 366: Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. KILMER, and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.  
 H.R. 460: Ms. SPEIER and Mr. KILDEE.  
 H.R. 485: Mr. PIERLUISI.  
 H.R. 495: Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mrs. LUMMIS, Mr. FORBES, and Mr. HUNTER.  
 H.R. 523: Mr. RUIZ.  
 H.R. 565: Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico.  
 H.R. 685: Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. COHEN, Mr. HULTGREN, Mr. COOK, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. HURT, and Ms. BONAMICI.  
 H.R. 690: Mr. MILLER of Florida.  
 H.R. 708: Mr. LATHAM.  
 H.R. 713: Mr. KILDEE and Mr. CÁRDENAS.  
 H.R. 718: Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas and Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee.  
 H.R. 721: Mr. FATTAH.  
 H.R. 732: Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. LAMALFA, and Mr. LABRADOR.  
 H.R. 805: Mr. LATHAM.  
 H.R. 813: Mr. VEASEY and Mr. LATHAM.  
 H.R. 846: Ms. KELLY of Illinois and Mr. LATHAM.  
 H.R. 855: Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. CLARKE,

Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. KILMER, Mr. HECK of Nevada, and Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.

H.R. 875: Mr. RUNYAN.

H.R. 900: Mr. LOWENTHAL.

H.R. 920: Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. LATHAM, Mr. YODER, Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. CLARKE, and Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.

H.R. 921: Mr. RAHALL.

H.R. 961: Mr. CARTWRIGHT.

H.R. 1001: Mr. RICHMOND.

H.R. 1009: Mr. LATHAM.

H.R. 1020: Mr. ROTHFUS and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.

H.R. 1077: Mr. HARPER.

H.R. 1125: Mr. LATHAM.

H.R. 1140: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.

H.R. 1146: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. LATHAM, and Mr. TIERNEY.

H.R. 1179: Ms. ESTY, Mr. SCHNEIDER, and Mr. FINCHER.

H.R. 1213: Mr. TONKO.

H.R. 1224: Mr. HANNA.

H.R. 1250: Mr. VEASEY and Mr. KILDEE.

H.R. 1252: Mr. HORSFORD.

H.R. 1263: Mr. LYNCH, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. PETERS of Michigan, and Ms. ESTY.

H.R. 1284: Mr. CARTWRIGHT.

H.R. 1309: Mr. GRAVES of Georgia.

H.R. 1339: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. RUIZ, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. RUNYAN, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. SCHWARTZ, and Mr. LATHAM.

H.R. 1373: Ms. WILSON of Florida.

H.R. 1389: Mr. NADLER, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. DEUTCH, and Mr. VEASEY.

H.R. 1440: Mr. LATTA.

H.R. 1449: Mr. PITTENGER.

H.R. 1496: Mr. LATHAM.

H.R. 1503: Mr. LATHAM.

H.R. 1518: Mr. KILMER and Mr. DOGGETT.

H.R. 1528: Mr. YARMUTH.

H.R. 1563: Mr. LATHAM.

H.R. 1588: Mr. SCHIFF.

H.R. 1601: Mr. CONNOLLY.

H.R. 1666: Mr. WHITFIELD, Mr. PASTOR of Arizona, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas.

H.R. 1695: Mr. NADLER, Mr. RADEL, and Ms. ESHOO.

H.R. 1708: Mr. BRADY of Texas.

H.R. 1717: Mr. SIMPSON.

H.R. 1731: Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. HIMES, and Mr. DOGGETT.

H.R. 1771: Mr. ROTHFUS.

H.R. 1772: Mr. KINGSTON.

H.R. 1779: Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico, Mr. MEADOWS, and Mr. KINGSTON.

H.R. 1796: Mr. LATHAM and Mr. CARTWRIGHT.

H.R. 1803: Mrs. ELLMERS, Mr. COOPER, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. MICHAUD, and Mr. BUTTERFIELD.

H.R. 1835: Mr. ENGEL.

H.R. 1861: Mr. RUNYAN.

H.R. 1905: Mr. COOPER, Mr. WITTMAN, and Mr. COTTON.

H.R. 1950: Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN.

H.R. 1995: Ms. SPEIER.

H.R. 2023: Mr. RUSH.

H.R. 2053: Mr. LATHAM.

H.R. 2103: Mr. LANCE.

H.R. 2113: Mr. BROOKS of Alabama.

H.R. 2116: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. LOWENTHAL, and Mr. KILDEE.

H.R. 2134: Mr. WHITFIELD.

H.R. 2146: Mr. WELCH and Mr. CLEAVER.

H.R. 2156: Mr. STIVERS.

H.R. 2201: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.

H.R. 2224: Mr. COHEN, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. BENTIVOLIO, Mr. TONKO, Mrs. CAPPS, and Ms. BORDALLO.

H.R. 2283: Mr. BACHUS, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. GERLACH, Mrs. LUMMIS, Mr. HURT, and Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois.

H.R. 2288: Ms. SCHWARTZ and Mr. TAKANO.

H.R. 2309: Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. FOSTER, and Mr. ROONEY.

H.R. 2311: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.

H.R. 2350: Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 2361: Mr. FINCHER.

H.R. 2375: Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina.

H.R. 2376: Mr. CASSIDY.

H.R. 2385: Mr. RADEL.

H.R. 2414: Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. WALBERG, and Mr. PETERSON.

H.R. 2429: Mrs. ROBY and Mr. ROSKAM.

H.R. 2446: Mr. ROTHFUS.

H.R. 2459: Mr. CARTWRIGHT.

H.R. 2477: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.

H.R. 2479: Ms. KELLY of Illinois.

H.R. 2480: Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 2485: Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 2499: Mr. MAFFEI.

H.R. 2500: Ms. JENKINS, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, and Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico.

H.R. 2502: Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. CONYERS, and Ms. LEE of California.

H.R. 2504: Mr. PETERSON and Mr. MAFFEI.

H.R. 2509: Mr. CONYERS and Mr. NADLER.

H.R. 2511: Mr. STUTZMAN.

H.R. 2536: Mr. KILMER.

H.R. 2537: Mr. GOODLATTE.

H.R. 2545: Mr. RANGEL and Mr. CARTWRIGHT.

H.R. 2549: Mr. HOLT.

H.R. 2632: Mr. MICHAUD.

H.R. 2663: Mr. SCHOCK, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS.

H.R. 2682: Mr. HUNTER.

H.R. 2692: Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. DELBENE, and Mr. DEFAZIO.

H.R. 2715: Ms. KUSTER.

H.R. 2717: Ms. HANABUSA.

H.R. 2725: Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. ROKITA, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, and Mr. TERRY.

H.R. 2735: Mr. GARAMENDI.

H.R. 2783: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.

H.R. 2809: Mr. CHABOT, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. WOMACK, and Mr. LANKFORD.

H.R. 2837: Mr. BUCHANAN.

H.R. 2841: Mr. LATHAM.

H.R. 2842: Mr. KINGSTON.

H.R. 2856: Ms. TITUS.

H.R. 2870: Mr. NUNES, Mr. RENACCI, and Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California.

H.R. 2876: Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. NUGENT, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mr. YODER, Mr. POSEY, Mr. YOHIO, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. WEBER of Texas, and Mr. FRANKS of Arizona.

H.R. 2908: Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas.

H.R. 2932: Mr. ROONEY, Mr. CONYERS, and Mr. CUMMINGS.

H.R. 2936: Mr. KIND and Mrs. CAPPS.

H.R. 2986: Mr. BLUMENAUER and Mr. DEFAZIO.

H.R. 2998: Mr. CONYERS.

H.R. 3017: Mr. GOSAR.

H.R. 3035: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.

H.R. 3037: Mr. HASTINGS of Washington.

H.R. 3043: Mr. SIMPSON and Mr. RANGEL.

H.R. 3067: Mr. ROKITA.

H.R. 3076: Mr. AMODEI, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. SHUSTER, and Mr. CASSIDY.

H.R. 3077: Mr. HARPER.

H.R. 3092: Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. REICHERT, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. GOWDY, and Mr. REED.

H.R. 3095: Mr. CRAMER, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. RENACCI, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. JENKINS, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. DENHAM, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. JONES, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. JOYCE, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. BARLETTA, Mr. OLSON, Mr. HUNTER, and Mrs. NOEM.

H.R. 3099: Mr. CASSIDY.  
H.J. Res. 47: Mr. BISHOP of Utah and Mr. AMODEI.  
H.J. Res. 52: Mr. SMITH of Texas.  
H.J. Res. 62: Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mrs. BACHMANN, Mr. FINCHER, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. BENTIVOLIO, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. MARCHANT, Mrs. WALORSKI, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. ROTHFUS, Mr. YODER, Mr. HALL, and Mr. ROE of Tennessee.  
H. Con. Res. 16: Mr. WALZ and Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas.  
H. Con. Res. 51: Mr. SCOTT of Virginia and Mr. POE of Texas.  
H. Con. Res. 53: Mr. HOLT.  
H. Res. 36: Ms. JENKINS and Mr. COOK.  
H. Res. 101: Ms. BONAMICI.  
H. Res. 109: Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania.  
H. Res. 123: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.  
H. Res. 285: Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. PIERLUISI, and Mr. VARGAS.

H. Res. 302: Mr. KEATING.  
H. Res. 307: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.  
H. Res. 345: Ms. MENG, Mr. SMITH of Washington, and Mr. GRIJALVA.

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#### CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows;

The amendment to be offered by Representative ALAN LOWENTHAL, or a designee, to H.R. 761 the National Strategic and Critical Minerals Production Act, does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. ROYCE

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Foreign Affairs in H.R. 3012 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. KLINE

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Education and the Workforce in H.R. 3102, the Nutrition Reform and Work Opportunity Act of 2013, do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. LUCAS

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Agricultural in H.R. 3102 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.